

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.







The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Sir John Oldcastle

In consequence of the miscarriage of proofs in the post the fact that the "non-ascribed" title-page in this facsimile is itself in facsimile is not recorded, as it should be, in the "Prelim."

I regret the accident. This slip will, however, set out the fact.

JOHN S. FARMER,

General Editor.

LITTLE MISSENDEN, 13th January, 1911.

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Sir John Oldcastle

"Written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE"

| Date of Earliest Known Editions (two in same year) | 1600 |
|--|------|
| [B.M. Press-marks, C. 34, l. 1, and C. 34, l. 2] | |
| Next issued in the third folio Shakespeare | 1664 |
| Also issued in the folio of | 1684 |
| Reproduced in Facsimile | 1911 |



The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

Sir John Oldcastle

"Written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE"

1600



Issued for Subscribers by the Editor of
THE TUDOR FACSIMILE TEXTS

MCMXI



Sir John Oldcastle

"Written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE"

1600

Two editions of this play were issued in 1600; one impression [B.M. Press-mark, C. 34, l. 1] ascribed it to Shakespeare, the other [C. 34, l. 2] did not. It is uncertain which of the two is the earlier. Both title pages are herein given, but the text which follows is from the impression which lacks the ascription. In this edition certain errors of the press appearing in the other were corrected.

"Sir John Oldcastle" next appeared in the third folio, and afterwards in the folio of 1684.

Henslowe's "Diary" seems incontestably to negative the ascription to Shakespeare.

Mr. J. A. Herbert, of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum, after comparing this facsimile with the original copy, says that again the reproduction is excellent in every respect.

JOHN S. FARMER.



The first part

Of the true & honorable history, of the Life of Sir Iohn Old-castle, the good Lord Cobham.

As it hath bene lately alted by the Right honorable the Earle of Notingham Lord High Admiral of England, his Seruants.

Written by William Shakespeare.



London printed for T.P. 1600.







The first part

Of the true and hono-

rable historie, of the life of Sir fohn Old-castle, the good Lord Cobham.

As it bath been lately alted by the right bonorable the Earle of Notingham Lord high Admirall of England his feruants.



LONDON

Printed by V.S. for Thomas Pauler, and areto be folde at his shop at the figne of the Catte and Parrots neere the Exchange.

1600.













The Prologue.

He doubtful Title (Gentlemen) prefixt
Don the Argument we have in hand,
May breede in pence, and wrong fully disturbe
The peacefull quiet of your setted thoughts:
To stop which scruple tet this briefe suffise.
It is no pamperd glutton we present,

Nor aged Councellor to youthfull finne,
Rut one, whose vertue shone about the rest,
Avaliant Martyr, and a vertuous peere,
In whose true faith and loyaltie express
Unto his sourraigne, and his countries weale:
We strike to pay that tribute of our Loue,
Your favours merite, let saire Truth be gracite,
Since for de invention former time desacte.









The true and honorable Historie, of the life of Sir Iohn Oldcastle, the good Lord Cobham.

In the fight, enter the Sheriffe and two of his men.

Sheriffe. Y Lords I charge ve

Y Lords, I charge ye in his Highnesse name,
To keepe the peace, you, and your followers.

Hero. Good M. Sheriste, look vnto your self.

Pow. Do so, for we have other businesse.

Proffer to sight againe

Sher. Will ye disturbe the Judges, and the Assista

Pow. Hold then, lets heare it.

Herb. But be briefe, ye were best. Barl. O ves.

Dany Costone, make shorter O, or shall marre your Yes. Bay. O ves.

Owen What, has her nothing to say but O yes?
Bay. O ves.

Da. O nay, pye Cosse plut downe with her, down with her, A Pawesse a Pawesse.

Gongh A Herbert a Herbert, and downe with Powesse.

Helter skelter againe.

Sher. Hold, in the Kingsname, hold.
Omen Downe e tha ka naues name, downe.

A 3

100

The first part of

In this fight, the Bailiffe is knocked downe, and the Sheriffe and the other runne away.

Herb. Powesse, I thinke thy Welsh and thou do smart.
Pow. Herbert, I thinke my sword came neere thy heart.
Herb. Thy hearts best bloud shall pay the losse of mine.

Gough A Herberta Herbert

Dany A Pawelle a Pawelle.

As they are lifting their weapons, enter the Maior of Hereford, and his Officers and Townes-men with clubbes.

Maior My Lords, as you are liege men to the Crowne, True noblemen, and subjects to the King, Attend his, Highnesse proclamation, Commaunded by the ludges of Assis, For keeping peace at this assemblie.

Herb. Good M. Maior of Hereford be briefe.
M.ii. Serieant, without the ceremonie of O yes.

Pronounce aloud the proclamation.

Ser. The Kings luftices, perceiuing what publique inifchiefe may enfue this private quarrelism his maieflies name do straightly charge and commaund all persons, of what degree soeuer, to depart this cittie of Hereford, except such as are bound to give attendance at this Assis, and that no man presume to weare any weapon, especially welsh-hookes, forrest billes.

Owen Haw, no pill nor wells hoog? ha?
Ma. Peace, and heare the proclamation.

Ser. And that the Lord Powelle do prefently disperse and discharge his retinue, and depart the cittie in the Kings peace, he and his followers, on paine of imprisonment.

Dang Haw?pud her Lord Paweslein prilon, A Pawes

A Pawesse, cossone line and the with her Lord.

Gough A Herbert a Herbert. .

In this fight the Lord Herbert is wounded, and fals to the ground, the Maior and his company goe away crying clubbes, Poweffe runnes away, Gough and other of Herberts faction buse themfelues about Herbert: enters the two Indges in their roades,





sir Iohn Old-castle.

the Sherisse and his Bailisses afore them &c.

1. Ind. Where's the Lord Herbert? is he hurt or slaine?

Sher. Hee's here my Lord.

2. Ind. How fares his Lordshippe, friends?

Gough Mortally wounded, speechlesse, he cannot line.

1. Ind Connay him hence, let not his wounds take avre,

And get him drefs'd with expedition, Ex. Herb. & Gough

M. Maior of Hereford M Shrine o'th shire,

Commit Lord Powesse to safe custodie,

To answer the disturbance of the peace,

Lord Herberts perill, and his high contempt

Of vs., and you the Kings commissioners,

See it be done with care and diligence.

Sher. Pleaseityour Lordship, my Lord Powesseis gone,

Past all recouery.

2. Ind. Yet let search be made,

To apprehend his followers that are left.

Sher. There are some of them, sirs, lay hold on them, owen Ofves, and why? what has her done I pray you?

Sher. Disarme them Bailiffes.

Ma. Officers affift.

Dany Heare you Lor shudge, what resson is for this?
Onen: Cosson pe puse for fighting for our Lord?

I. Sudge Away with them.

Dany Harg you my Lord. (Thitten ka naue, ')
Owen Gough my Lorde Herberts man's a Both at
Dany Iseliue and tiein good quarrell.
Owen Pray you do shustice, let awl be preson.

Day Prison no, I ord shudge I wooll give you pale, good sucrey.

2. Indge What Baletwhat sucress?

Dany Her coozin ap Ries, ap Euan, ap Morrice, ap Morgan, ap Lluellyn, ap Madoc, ap Mereduh,

ap Griffen, ap Dauy, ap Owen ap Shinken Shones.

2 Indge. Two of the most, sufficient are ynow,
Sher. And t please your Lordship these are al but one.

1. Indge.



sir lobn Old-castle.

Innocent of it, onely his name was vide.

We therefore from his Highnesse give this charge.
You maister Maior, looke to your carzens,
You maister Shense vnto your shire, and you
As sustices in every ones precinct
There be no meetings. When the vulgar fort
Sit on their Ale-bench, with their cups and kannes,
Matters of state be not their common talke,
Nor pure religion by their lips prophande.
Let vs returne vnto the Bench againe,
And there examine further of this fray.

Enter a

And there examine further of this fray. Enter a Baily and Sher. Sits, have ye taken the lord Powelle yet? a Serieant

Ba. No, nor heard of him.

Ser. No, hee's gone farre enough.

2.14. They that are left behind, thall answer all. Exemp.

Enter Suffoke, Bishop of Rochester, Butler, parson of Wrosham.

Suffolke Now my lord Bishop, take free liberty

To speake your minde: what is your sute to vs?

Bishop My noble Lord, no more than what you know,

And have him oftentimes invested with:
Grievous complaints have past betweene the lippes
Of envious persons to vpbraide the Cleargy,

Some carping at the liuings which we have, And others spurning at the ceremonies That are of auncient custome in the church.

Amongst the which, Lord Cobham is a chiefe: What inconvenience may proceede hereof, Both to the King and to the common wealth, May easily be discernd, when like a frensie I his innovation shall possess their mindes.

These vpstarts will have followers to vphold Their damnd opinion, more than Harry shall To undergoe his quarrell gainst the French.

Suffelke What proofe is there against them to be had, That what you say the law may instifie?

Bishop They give themselves the name of Protestants,

B

The first part of

And meete in fields and folitary groues. fir Ihon Was ever heard (my Lord) the like til now? That theeues and rebells, s bloud heretikes, Playne heretikes, lle stand toote to their teeth, Should have to colour, their vile practiles, A title of fuch worth, as Protestant? enter one wyth a letter. Suf. O but you must not sweare, it ill becomes One of your coate, to rappe out bloudy oathes. Bis. Pardon him good my Lord, it is his zeale, An honelt country prelate, who laments To fee fuch foule disorder in the church Sir John Theres one they call him Sir John Old-castle, He has not his name for naught : for hke a castle Doth he encompasse them within his walls, But till that castle be subuerted quite, We no re shall be at quiet in the realme. Bif. That is our fute, my Lord, that he be tane, And brought in question for his berefie, Befide two letters brought me out of Wales, Wherin my Lord Perford writes to me, What tumult and fedition was begun, About the Lord Cobham, at the Sifes there, For they had much ado to calme the rage, And that the valiant Herbert is there same. Suf. A fire that must be quencht, wel, fay no more, The King anon goes to the counfell chamber, There to debate of matters touching France: As he doth palle by, lle informe his grace Concerning your petition: Master Butler, It I forget, do you remember me, Offer him a purfe. But. I will my Lord. Bis. Not for a recompence, But as a token of our loue to you, By me my Lords of the cleargie do present

This purse, and in it full a thousand Angells, Praying your Lordship to accept their gift.





sir John Old-castle.

Suf. I thanke them, my Lord Bishop, for their loue, But will not take their mony, if you pleafe

To give it to this gentleman, you may.

Bish. Sir,then we craue your furtherance herein. But. The best I can my Lord of Rochester. Bish. Nay, pray ye take it, trust me but you shal, fir John Were ye all three voon New Market heath,

You should not neede straine curtie who should ha'te, Sir Iohn would quickely rid ye of that care.

Suf The King is comining, feare ye not my Lord,

The very first thing I will breake with him,

Enter K. Harry and Hunting-Shal be about your matter.

Har. My Lord of Suffolke, Ton in talke. Was it not faide the Cleargy did refuse To lend vs mony toward our warres in France?

Saf. Itwasmy Lord, but vory wrongfully.

Har. I know it was, for Huntington here tells me,

They have bin very bountifull of late.

S'mf. And still they vow my gracious Lord to be so,

Hoping your maiestie will thinke of them, As of your louing subjects, and suppresse

All fuch malitious errors as begin

To spot their calling, and disturb the church. Har. God else forbid: why Suffolke, is there

Any new rupture to disquiet them?

Suf. No new my Lord, the old is great enough, And foincrealing as if not cut downe, Will breede a scandale to your royall state,

And set your Kingdome quickely in an vproare, The Kentish knight, Lord Cobham, in despight

Of any law, or spiritual discipline,

Maintaines this vostart new religion still, And divers great affemblies by his meanes. And private quarrells, are commenst abroad,

As by this letter more at large my liege;

Is made apparant.

B 2

Har.

The first part of

Har. We do find it here,
There was in Wales a certaine fray of late,
Betweene two noblemen, but what of this?
Followes it straight Lord Cobbain must be he
Did cause the same? I date be sworne (good knight)
He neuer dreampt of any such contention.

Bil. But in his name the quarrell did begin, About the opinion which he held (my liege.)

Har. How is it did? was either he in place, To take part with them, or abette them in it? If brabling fellowes, whose inkindled bloud, Seethes in their fiery vaines, will needes go fight, Making their quarrells of some words that pass, Either of you, or you, amongst their cuppes, Is the fault yours, or are they guiltie of it?

Suffolke With pardon of your Highnesse (my dread lord)

Such little sparkes neglected, may in time Grow to a mighty flame: but thats not all, He doth beside maintaine a strange religion, And will not be compelld to come to masse.

Bis. We do beseech you therefore gracious prince,

Without offence vnto your maiesty We may be bold to vse authoritie.

Harry Ashow?

Bishop To summon him vnto the Arches, Where such offences have their punishment.

Harry To answere personally, is that your meaning?

Bushop Itis, my lord.

Harry Howisheappeale?

Bishop He cannot (my Lord) in such a case as this.
Suffoshe Not where Religion is the plea, my lord.
Harry I tooke it alwayes, that our selfe stoode ont,

As a fufficient refuge, voto whome Not any but might lawfully appeale. But weele not argue now voon that poynt: For fir Iohn Old-caftle whom you accus.





sir Iobn Old-castle.

Let me intreate you to dispence awhile With your high title of preheminence. in (corne. Report did neuer yet condemne him fo, But he hath alwayes beene reputed loyall: And in my knowledge I can fay thus much, That he is vertuous, wife, and honourable: If any way his conscience be seduc'de, To waver in his faith: He fend for him, And schoole him prinately, if that serue not, Then afterward you may proceede against him. Butler, be you the mellenger for vs, And will him presently repaire to court.

fir Iohn How now my lord, why stand you discontent?

In footh, me thinkes the King hath well decreed. Bishop Yea, yea, sir Iohn, if he would keepe his word,

But I perceive he favours him fo much, As this will be to small effect, I feare.

fir Iohn Why then Ile tell you what y'are best to do: If you suspect the King will be but cold In reprehending him, fend you a processe too To ferue vpon him: fo you may be fure To make him answer't, howsoere it fall.

Bishop And well remembred, I will have it so, A Sumner shall be sent about it strait

fir John Yea, doe so, in the meane space this remaines For kinde fir Iohn of Wrotham honest lacke. Me thinkes the purse of gold the Bishop gaue, Made a good shew, it had a tempting looke, Beshrew me, but my fingers ends do itch 1 o be voon those rudduks : well, tis thus: I am not as the worlde does take me for:-If euer woolfe were cloathed in sheepes coate, Then I am he, olde huddle and twang, yfaith, A priest in shew, but in plaine termes, a theefe, Yet let me tell you too, an honest theefe, One that will take it where it may be sparde,

And

And spend it freely in good fellowship. ·I have as many shapes as Protein had, That still when any villany is done, There may be none suspect it was fir John. l'esides, to coinfort me, for whats this life, Except the crabbed bitternes thereof Be fweetened now and then with lechery? I have my Doll, my concubine as twere, To frollicke with, a lufty bounfing gerle. But whilft I loyter here the gold, may scape, And that must not be so, it is mine owne, Therefore He meete him on his way to court, And shrue him of it : there will be the sport.

Exit. Enter three or foure poore people, some (ouldiers, some old men

1 God help, God help, there's law for punishing, But theres no law for our necessity: There be more stockes to set poore foldiers in,

Than there be houses to releeve them at. Old man Faith, housekeeping decayes in enery place,

Euen as Saint Peter writ, still worse and worse

Maister major of Rochester has given commaundement, that none shall goe abroade out of the parish, and they haue fet an order downe forfooth, what every poore housholder must give towards our reliefe: where there be some ceased I may fay to you, had almost as much neede to beg as we.

I It is a hard world the while.

Old man Ifa poore man come to a doore to aske for Gods lake, they aske him for a licence, or a certificate from a Juffice.

2 Faith we have none, but what we beare vppon our ho-

dies, our maimed limbs, God help vs.

4 And yet, as lame as I am, le with the king into France. can crawle but a ship-boorde, I hadde rather be slaine in France, than starue in England.

Olae man. Ha, were I but as lufty as I was at the battell of Shrewsbury, I would not doe as I do: but we are now come to the good lord Cobhains, to the best man to the poore that





sir fohn Old-castle.

is in all Kent.

4 God blesse him, there be but few such.

Enter Lord Cobham with Harpoole.

Enter Lord Cobbamwith Harpoole.

Cob. Thou peeuth froward man, what wouldst thou haue?

Harp. This pride, this pride, brings all to beggarie,

I seru de your fathers and your grandsather,

Shew me such two men now: no, no,

Your backes, your backes, the direll and pride,

Has cut the throate of all good housekeeping,

They were the best Yeomens masters, that

Euer were in England.

Cob. Yea, except thou have a crue of feely knaues,

And sturdy rogues, still feeding at my gate, There is no hospitalitie with thee.

Harp. They may fit at the gate well enough, but the diuell of any thing you give them, except they will eate fromes.

Yea sir, heres your retinue, your guests be come,
They know their howers I warrant you.

Old. God blesse your retinue, God sauethe good Lord
Colland and all his bouste.

Cobham, and all his house,

Soul. Good your honour, bestow your blessed almes, Vpon poore men.

Cob. Now sir, here be your Almes knights.

Now are you as fafe as the Emperour.

Harp. My Almes knights:nay,th'are yours,
It is a shame for you, and Ile stand too't,
Your fool th almes maintaines more vagabonds,
Then all the noblemen in Kent beside.'
Out you rogues, you knaues worke for your liuings,
Alas poore men, O Lord they may beg their hearts out,
Theres no more charitie amongst men,
Then amongst om many massifted dogges,
What make you here, you needy knaues?
Away, away, you villaines.

. 2. foul. I befeech you fir, be good to vs.

Cobham Nay, nay, they know thee well enough, I thinke that all the beggars in this land are thy acquaintance, goe bestowe

your almes, none will controule you fir.

Harp. What should I give them? you are growne so beggarly, you have scarce a bitte of breade to give at your doore; you talke of your religion so long, that you have banished charitie from amongst you, a man may make a flaxe shop in your kitchin chimnies, for any fire there is stirring.

Cobham If thou wilt give them nothing, fend them hence,

let themnot stand here starning in the colde.

Harp. Who I drive them kence? If I drive poore men from your doore, He be hangd, I know not what I may come to my felfe: yea, God help you poore knaues, ye fee the world yfaith, well, you had a mother: well, God be with thee good Lady, thy foule's at reft: the gaue more in thirts and finocks to poore children, then you spend in your house, & yet you live a beggar too.

Cobham Euen the worst deede that ere my mother did, was

in releeuing fuch a foole as thou.

Harpoole Yea, yea, I am a foole still, with all your wit you

will die a beggar, go too.

Cobbam Go you olde foole, give the poore people something, go in poore men into the inner court, and take such alms as there is to be had.

Souldier God bleffe your honor.

Harpoole Hang you roags, hang you, theres nothing but milery among it you, you feare no law you.

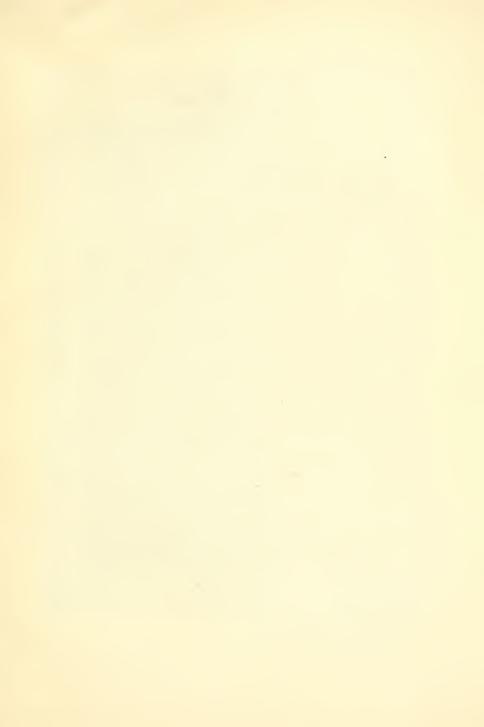
Exw.

Olaeman God blesse you good maister Rafe, God saue

your life, you are good to the poore still.

Enter the Lord Powes diguifed, and shrowde him effe.
Cobbam What fellow's yonder comes along the groue?
Few passensers there be that know this way:
Me thinkes he stops as though he stayd for me,
And meant to shrowd himselfe amongst the bushes.
I know the Cleargie hate me to the death,
And my religion gets me many socs:

And







hr Iohn Old-castie.

And this may be some desperate rogue, Subornd to worke me mischiefe: As it Pleaseth God, if he come toward me, sure He stay his comming, be he but one man, The Lora Powis comes on. What foere he be: I have beene well acquainted with that face.

Powie Well met my honorable lord and friend. Cobham You are welcome fir, what ere you be,

But of this fodaine fir, I do not know you.

Powis I am one that wisheth well vnto your honor, My name is Powes, an olde friend of yours.

Cobham My honorable lord, and worthy friend,

What makes your lordship thus alone in Kent, And thus difguiled in this strange attire? Ponis My Lord, an vnexpected accident, Hath at this time inforc'de me to these parts: And thus it hapt, not yetful five dayes lince, Now at the last Assise at Hereford, It chanst that the lord Herbert and my selfe, Mongst other things, discoursing at the table, To fall in speech about some certaine points Of Wickeliffes doctrine, gainst the papacie, And the religion catholique, maintaind Through the most part of Europe at this day. This wilfull teafty lord stucke not to fay, That Wickeliffe was a knaue, a schismauke, His doctrine diuelish and hereticall, And what foere he was maintaind the fame, was traitor both to God and to his country. Being moued at his peremptory speech, I told him, some maintained those opinions, Men, and truer subjects then ford Herbert was: And he replying in comparisons: Your name was vrgde, my lord, gainst his chalenge, To be a perfect fauourer of the trueth. And to be thort from words we fell to blowes,

Our

Our feruants, and our tenants taking parts,
Many on both sides hurt: and for an houre
The broyle by no meanes could be pacified,
Vntill the ludges rising from the bench,
Were in their persons forcede to part the fray.
Cobham I hope no man was violently staine.
Pomis Faith none I trust, but the lord Herberts selfe,

Who is in truth fo dangerously hurt,

As it is doubted he can hardly scape.

Cobbam I am fory, my good lord, of thefe ill newes.

Powis This is the caufe that drives me into Kent,
To shrowd my selfe with you so good a friend,
Vntill I heare how things do speed at home.

Cobham Your lordship is most welcome vnto Cobham,
But I am very sory, my good lord,
My name was brought in question in this matter,
Considering I have many enemies,
That threaten malice, and do lie in waite
To take advantage of the smallest thing.
But you are welcome, and repose your lordship,
And keepe your selfe here secret in my house,
Vntill we heare how the lord Herbert speedes:
Here comes my man.

Emer Harpoole.

Sirra, what newes?

Harpoole Yonders one maister Butler of the privile cham-

Fowis 1 pray God the lord Herbert be not dead, and the King hearing whither I am gone, hath fent for me.

Cob. Comfort your selfe my lord, I wairtant you.

Harpoole Fellow, what ales thee? doof thou quake? doft thou make? doft thou tremble? ha?

Cob. Peace you old foole, firra, conney this gentleman in the backe way, and bring the other into the walke.

Hurpoole Come sir. you are welcome, if you loue my lorde.
Powis God haue mercy gentle friend. exennt.

Cob. I thought as much, that it would not be long before I





fir fohn Old-captle.

heard of something from the King, about this matter.

Enter Harpoole with Maister Butler.

Harpoole Sir, youder my ford walkes, you fee him, He have your men into the Celler the while.

Cobb. welcome good maister Butler.

Butler Thankes, my good lord: his Maiestie dooth commend his loue vnto your lordship, and wils you to repaire vnto the court.

Cobb. God blesse his Highnesse, and confound his enne-

mies, I hope his Maiestie is well.

Butler In health, my lord.

Cobb. God long continue it : meethinkes you looke as

though you were not well, what ailes you fir?

Butler Faith I have had a foolish odde mischance, that angers mee: comming over Shooters hill, there came a fellow to me like a Sailer, and asked me money, and whilst I staide my horse to draw my purse, he takes th'advantage of a little banck and leapes behind me, whippes my purseaway, and with a so-daine ierke I know not how, threw me at least three yards out of my saddle. I never was so robbed in all my life.

Cobb. I am very forie fir for your mischance, wee will send our warrant foorth, to stay such suspitious persons as shal be

found, then maister Butler, we wil attend you.

Butler I humbly thanke your lordship, I will attend you.

Enter the Sumner.

Sum. I have the law to warrant what I do, and though the Lord Cobham be a noble man, that dispenses not with law, I dare serve processes a mad slip in a corner with a prettie wench, a Sumner must not goe alwayes by seeing, a manner may be content to hide his eies, where he may feele his profit well, this is my Lord Cobhams house, if I can deuise to speake with him, if not, Ile clap my citation ypon's doors, so my lord of Rochester bid me, but me thinkes here coines one of his men.

Enter Happoole,

Harp. Welcome good fellow, welcome, who wouldn't thou C 2 speake

speake with?

Sam. With my lord Cobham, I would speake, if thou be one of his men.

Harp. Yes I am one of his men, but thou canst not speake with my lord.

Sum. May I fend to him then?

Harp. He tel thee that, when I know thy errarid.

Sum. I will not tel my errand to thee.

Harp. Then keepe it to thy felfe, and walke like a knaue as thou camest.

Sum. I tell thee my lord keepes no knaues, firra.

Harr. Then thou seruelt him not, I beleeve, what lord is thy malter?

Sum. Mylord of Rochester.

Harp. In good time, and what wouldst thou have with my lord Cobham?

Sum. I come by vertue of a processe, to ascite him to appeare before my lord, in the court at Rochester.

Harp aside. Wel, God grant me patience, I could eatethis conger. My lord is not at home, therefore it were good Sumner you caried your processe backe.

Sum. Why, if he will not be spoken withall, then will I leave it here, and fee you that he take knowledge of it.

Harp. Swounds you flaue, do you fet vp your bills here, go to, take it downe againe, doest thou know what thou dost, dost thee know on whom thou feruest processes

Sum. Yesmarry doe I, Sir Iohn Old-castle Lord Cob-

Harp. I am glad thou knowest him yet, and sirra dost not thou know, that the lord Cobham is a braue lord, that keepes good beefe and beere in his house, and every day feedes a hundred poore people at's gate, and keepes a hundred tall fellowes?

Sum. Whats that to my processe? Harp. Mary this fir, is this processe parchment?

Sum. Yes mary.





sir Iohn Old-eastle.

Harp. And this feale waxe?

Sum. Itisfo.

Harp. If this be parchment, & this wax, eate you this parchment, and this waxe, or I will make parchment of your skinne, and beate your braines into waxe: Sirra Sumner dispatch, deuoure, sirra deuoure.

Sum. I am my lord of Rochesters Sumner, I came to do my

office, and thou shalt answere it.

Harp. Sirra, no railing, but betake you to your teeth, thou shalt eate no worse then thou bringst with thee, thou bringst it for my lord, and wilt thou bring my lord worse then thou wilt eate thy selfe?

Sum. Sir, I brought it not my lord to eate.

Harp. O do you firme now, all's one for that, but ile make you eate it, for bringing it.

Sum. I cannot eate it.

Harp. Can you not? sbloudile beate you writl you have a Romacke.

he beates him.

Sum. O hold, hold, good mafter feruing-man, I will eate it.

Harp. Be champping, be chawing fir, or lie chaw you, you rogue, the pureft of the hony.

Sum. Tough waxe, is the purest of the hony.

Harp. O'Lord sir, oh oh, he eater

Feed, feed, wholfome rogue, wholfome.

Cannot you like an honelt Summer walke with the chitell your brother, to fetch in your Bailiffes rents, but you must come to a noble mans house with processe? Sbloud if thy seale were as broad as the lead that couers Rochester church, thou shouldsteate it.

-Sum. O I am almost choaked, I am almost choaked.

Harp. Who's within there? wil you shame my Lord, is
there no becrein the house? Butler I say.

But. Heere, here. Enter Butler.

Harp. Giue him Beere. he drinkes.
There, tough old sheepskins, bare drie meate.
Sim. O sir, let me go no further, lle eate my word.

harp.

C 3

Harp. Yea mary fir, so I meane you shall eate more then your own word, for ile make you eate all the words in the processes. Why you drab monger, cannot the secrets of all the wenches in a sheire serve your curne, but you must come hither with a citation with a poxe? Ile cite you.

A cup of sacke for the Sumner.

But. Here sir here.

Harp . Here flaue I drinke to thee.

Sum. I thanke you fir.

Harp. Now if thou finds thy stomacke well, because thou shalt see my Lord keep's meate in's house, if thou wilt go in thou shalt have a peece of beefe to thy break faster.

Sum. No I am very well good M. seruing-man, I thanke

you, very well fir.

Harp. I am glad on't, then be walking towards Rochester to keepe your stomack warme; and Sumner, if I may know you disturb a good wench within this Diocesse, if I do not make thee eate her peticote, if there were four yards of Kennish cloth in't, I am a villaine.

. Sum. God be with you M. seruingmaan.

Harp. Farewell Sumner. Enter Conf. ble.

Con. God saue you M. Harpoole.

Harp. Welcome Constable, welcom Constable, what news with thee?

Com. And please you M. Harpoole, I am to make hue to cate, for a fellow with one eie that has rob d two Clothiers, and anoto craue your hindrance, for to search all suspected places, and they say there was a woman in the company.

Harp. Hast thou bin at the Alchouse, hast thou sought

there?

Con. I durit not fearch fir, in my Lord Cobhams libertie, except I had some of his seruants, which are for my warrant.

Harp. An honest Constable, an honest Constable, cal forth him that keepes the Alchouse there.

Con. Ho, who's within there?

Ale man Who calls there, come neere a Gods name, ohis't





sir John Old-castle.

you M. Constable and M. Harpoole, you are welcome with all my heart, what make you here so earely this morning?

Harp. Sirra, what strangers do you lodge, there is a robbery done this morning, and we are to search for all suspected perfons.

Aleman. Gods bores, I am fory for't, yfaith fir I lodge no body but a good honest mery priest, they call him fir I ohn a Wrootham, and a handsome woman that is his neece, that he saies he has some sute in law for, and as they go vp & down to London, sometimes they lie at my house.

Harp. What, is he here in thy house now?

Con. She is fir, I promife you fir he is a quiet man, and because he will not trouble too many roomes, he makes the woman lie euery night at his beds seete.

Harp. Bring her forth Constable, bring her forth, let's see

her, let's fee her.

Con. Dorothy, you must come downe to M. Constable.

Dol. Anonforsooth.

Be enters.

Harp. Welcome sweete lasse, welcome.

Dol. Ithank you good M. serwing-man, and master Constable also.

Harp. A plump girle by the mas, a plump girle, ha Dol ha,

wiltthou forfake the priest, and go with me.

Con. A well faid M. Harpoole, you are a merrie old man yfaith, yfaith you wil neuer be old: now by the macke, a prettie wench indeed.

Harp. Ye old mad mery Constable, art thou aduis'de of

that ha, well faid Dol, fill some ale here.

Dol aside Ohif I wish this old priest would not slicke to me, by Ioue I would ingle this old serving-man.

Harp. Oh you o d mad colt, yfaith Ile feak you : fil all the

pots in the house there.

. Con. Oh wel said M. Harpoole, you are heart of oake when all s done.

Harp. Ha Dol, thou half a sweete paire of lippes by the masse.

Dol.

Doll Truely you are a most sweet olde man, as euer I sawe, by my troth, you have a face, able to make any woman in love with you.

Harp. Fill sweete Doll, He drinke to thee.

Doll I pledge you fir, and thanke you therefore, and I pray you let it come.

Harp. imbracing her Doll, canst thou love me? a mad mer-

ry lasse, would to God I had neuer scene thee.

1) old I warrant you you will not out of my thoughts this tweluemonth, truely you are as full of fauour, as a man may be. Ah these sweete grey lockes, by my troth, they are most louely.

Constable Gods boores maister Harpoole, I will have one

bulle too.

Harp. No licking for you Constable, hand off, hand off.

Constable Bur lady I loue kissing as wel as you.

Doll Oh you are an od boie, you hauc a wanton eie of your owne: ah you sweet sugar lipt wanton, you will winne as many womens hearts as come in your company.

Emer Priest.

Wroth. Doll, come hither.

Harp. Priest, she shal not.

Doll lle come anone, sweete loue. Wroth, Hand off, old fornicator.

Harp. Vicar, Ile sithere in spight of thee, is this fitte stuffe

for a priest to carry vp and downe with him?

Wrotham Ah firra, dost thou not know, that a good fellow parson may have a chappel of ease, where his parish Church is tarre off?

Harp. You who ore fon fton'd Vicar.

Wroth. You olde stale ruffin, you lion of Cotswold.

Harp. Swounds Vicar, Ile geld you flies upon him.

Constable Keepe the Kings peace. Doll Murder, murder, murder.

Aleman Holde, as you are men, holde, for Gods sake be quiet i put vp your weapons, you drawe not in my house.

Harp. You whoorefon bawdy priest.

Wroth.





fir fohn Old-castle.

Froth. You old mutton monger. Conftable Hold fir Iohn, hold.

Dollto the Prieft I pray thee sweet heart be quiet, I was but sitting to drinke a pot of ale with him, even as kinde a man as over I met with.

Harp. Thou art a theefe I warrant thee.

Wroth. Then I am but as thou hast beene in thy dayes, lets not be asharmed of our trade, the King has beene a theefe himfelfe.

Doll Come, be quiet, hast thou sped? Wrath. I have wench, here be crownes is aith.

Doll Come, lets be all friends then.

Constable Well said mistris Dorothy if aith.

Harp. Thou art the madst priest that euer I met with.
Wroth. Gine me thy hand, thou art as good a fellow,
I am a singer, a drinker, a bencher, a wencher, I can say a masse,
and kisse a lasse: faith I have a parsonage, and bicause I would
not be at too much charges, this wench serves me for a sexton.

Harp. Well faid mad priest, weele in and be friends. exems.

Enter fir Roger Atton, master Bourne, master Benerley,

Action Now maister Murley, I am well assured You know our arrant, and do like the cause,

Being a man affected as we are?

Mn. Mary God dild ye daintie my deere, no mafter, good fir Roger Acton Knight, maister Bourne, and maister Beuerley esquires, gentlemen, and instices of the peace, no maister I, but plaine William Murly the brewer of Dunstable your honest neighbour, and your friend, if ye be men of my profession.

Benerley Professed friends to Wickliffe, foes to Rome.

Murl. Hold by me lad, leane vpon that staffe good mainter Beuerley, all of a house, say your mind, say your mind.

Action You know our faction now is growne to great,
Throughout the realme, that it beginnes to finoake
Into the Cleargies eies, and the Kings eares.

D High

High time it is that we were drawne to head, Our generall and officers appoynted. And warres ye wot will aske great store of coine. Abic to strength our action with your purfe, You are elected for a colonell

Ouer a regiment of fifteene bands.

Murley Fue paltrie paltrie, in and out, to and fro, be it more or leffe, uppon occasion, Lorde haue mercie uppon vs. what a world is this? Sir Roger Acton, I am buta Dunstable man, a plaine brewer ye know: will lufty Caualiering captaines gentlemen come at my calling, goe at my bidding? Daintie my deere, theile doe a dogge of watte, a horse of cheese, a pricke and a pudding no, no, ye must appoint some lord or knight at least to that place.

Bourne Why master Murley, you shall be a Knight:

Were you not in election to be shrieue? Haue ve not past all offices but that? Haue ye not wealth to make your wife a lady? I warrant you, my lord, our Generall Bestowes that honor on you at first sight.

Murley Mary God dild ye daintie my deare: But tell me, who shalbe our Generall? Wheres the lord Cobham, fir Iohn Old-castle, That noble almef giver, housekeeper, vertuous, Religious gentleman? Come to me there boics, Come to me there.

Allon Why who but he shall be our Generall? Murley And shall he knight me, and make me colonell? Allon My word for that, fir William Murley knight

Murley Fellow fir Roger Acton knight, all fellowes, I meane in armes, how strong are we? how many partners? our evenies beside the King are mightie, be it more or leile vpon occasion, recken our force.

Acton There are of vs our friends, and followers, Three thousand and three hundred at the least, Of northerne lads foure thousand, belide borse,

From





sir Iohn Old-castle.

From Kent there comes with fir Iohn Old-castle Seauen thousand, then from London issue out, Of maisters, seruants, strangers, prentices Fortie odde thousands into Ficket field, Where we appoint our special randeuous.

Murley Fue paltry paltry, in and out to and fro, Lord haue. mercie vpon vs, what a world is this, wheres that Ficket fielde,

fir Roger?

Action Behinde faint Giles in the field neere Holborne.

Murley Newgate, vp Holborne, S. Giles in the field, and to
Tiborne, an old faw: for the day, for the day?

Acton On friday next the fourcteenth day of Ianuary.

Murley Tyllie vallie, trust me neuer if I haue any liking of that day: fue paltry paltry, friday quoth a, dismall day, Childermas Teday this yeare was friday.

Benerley Nay maister Murley, if you obserue such daies,

We make some question of your constancie, All daies are like to men resolu de in right.

Murley Say Amen, and say no more, but say, and hold mafter Beuerley, friday next, and Ficket field, and William Murley, and his merry men shalbe al one, I haue halfe a score iades that draw my beere cartes, and euery iade shall beare a knaue, and euery knaue shall weare a iacke, and euery iacke shall haue a scull, and euery scull shall hew a speare and euery speare shal kill a foe at Ficket field, at Ficket field, Iohn and Tom, and Dicke and Hodge, and Rafe and Robin, William & George, and all my knaues shall fight like men, at Ficket field on friday next.

Bourne What summe of money meane you to disburse?

Murley It may be modestly, decently, soberly, and hand-

fomely I may bring fine hundreth pound.

Allon Fine hundreth man? fine thousand's not enough, A hundreth thousand will not pay our men

Two months together, either come preparde Like a braue Kuight, and martiall Colonell, In glittering golde, and gallant furniture,

D 2

Bringing

Bringing in coyne, a cart loade at the least, And all your followers mounted on good horse, Or neuer come disgracefull to vs all.

Benerley Perchance you may be chosen Treasurer, Tenne thousand pounds the least that you can bring.

Murley Paltry paltry, in and out, to and fro, vpon-occasion I have ten thousand pound to spend, and tenne too. And rather than the Bishop shall have his will of mee for my conscience, it shall out all. Flame and flaxe, flame and flaxe, it was gotte with water and manit, and it shall be with fire and guine powder. Sir Roger, a cart loade of mony til the axetee cracke, my selfe and my men in Ficket field on friday next: remember my Knighthoode, and my place: there's my hand He beathere.

Exit.

Allon See what Ambition may perswade men to, In hope of honor he will spend himselfe.

Bourse I neuer thought a Brewer halfe fo rich.

Beneries Was neuer bankerout Brewer yet but one,
With ving too much mault, too little water.

Afton Thats no faultin Brewers now-adayes:
Coine, away about our bufinesse.
Enter K. Harry, Suffolke, Butler, and Old-castle kneeling.

Harry Tisnotenough Lord Cobham to fubmit,
You must forfake your grosseopinion,
The Bishops find themselves much injured,
And though for some good service you have done,
We for our part are pleased to pardon you,
Yet they will not so soone be faussied,

Cohbam My gracious Lord vnto your Maiestie, Next vnto my God, I owe my life, And what is mine, either by natures gift, Or fortunes bountie, al is at your service, But for obedience to the Pope of Rome, I owe him none, nor shall his shaueling priests. That are in England, alter my beliefe.





sir john Old-castle.

If out of holy Scripture they can proue,
That I am in an errour, I will yeeld,
And gladly take instruction at their hands,
But otherwise, I do beseech your grace,
My conscience may not be incroacht vpon.

Har. We would be loath to presse our subjects bodies,
Much lesse their soules, the decre redeemed part,
Of him that is the ruler of vs all,
Yet let me counsell ye, that might command,
Do not presume to tempt them with ill words,
Nor suffer any meetings to be had

Within your house, but to the vitermost, Disperse the flockes of this new gathering sect.

Cobbam My liege, if any breathe, thet dares come forth,
And fay, my life in any of these points

Descript the attained or of ignoble thoughts

Describes th'attaindor of ignoble thoughts

Here stand I, craving no remorce at all,

But even the vimost rigor may be showne.

Here I are to strong a least your lovel in

Har. Let it suffice we know your loyaltie,

What have you there?

Cob. A deed of clemencie,
Your Highnesse pardon for Lord Powesse life,
Which I did beg, and you my noble Lord,
Of gracious fauour did vouchsafe to grant.

Her. But yet it is not figned with our hand.

Cob. Not yet my Liege.

One ready with persons

Har. The fact, you say, was done;

and incke.

Har. The fact, you say, was done; Not of prepensed malice, but by chance.

Cob. Vpon mine honor fo, no otherwise.

Her. There is his pardon, bid him make amends, writes.

And cleanse his soule to God for his offence,
What we remit, is but the bodies scourge,

Emer Bishop.

How now Lord Bishop?

Bishop Justice dread Soueraigne.

As thou art King, to graunt I may have inflice.

Exitor

Bis. Ah my good Lord, the state's abusse, And our decrees most shainefully prophande.

Har. How, or by whom? Bib. Euen by this heretike,

This lew, this Traitor to your maiestie.

Cob. Prelate, thou helt, eucn in thy greafie maw, Or who so euer twits me with the name,

Of either traitor, or of heretike.

Har. Forbeare I say, and Bishop, shew the cause From whence this late abuse hath bin derivide,

Byb. Thus mightie King, by generall confent, A mellenger was fent to cite this Lord, To make appearance in the confillorie, And comming to his house, a ruffian slaue, One of his daily followers, met the man, Who knowing him to be a parator, Assults him first, and after in contempt Of vs, and our proceedings, makes him eate The written processes, parchinent, seale and all: Whereby his maister neither was brought forth,

Nor we but scornd, for our authoritie.

Har. When was this done?

Bift. At fixe a clocke this morning.

Har. And when came you to court?

Cob. Last night my Lord.

Har. By this it feemes, he is not guilty of it,
And you have done him wrong t'accuse him so.

Bus. But it was done my lord by his appointment,

Or else his man durst noce have bin so bold.

Har. Or else you durit be bold, to interrupt, And fill our eares with friuolous complaints, Is this the duetie you do beare to vs? Was't not sufficient we did passe our word To send for him, but you missoubting it, Or which is worse, intending to forestall Our regall power, must likewise summon him?





sir Iohn Old-castle

This factors of Ambition, not of zeale,
And rather proues, you make his estate,
Than any way that he offends the law.
Go to, we like it not, and he your officer,
That was imployed so much amisse herein,
Had his desert for being insolent:

Enter Huntington
So Cobham when you please you may depart.

Cob. I humbly bid farewell vnto my liege.

Har. Farewell, what's the newes by Huntington? Hunt. Sir Roger Acton, and a crue, my Lord,

Ofbold feditions rebels, are in Armes, Intending reformation of Religion. And with their Army they intend to pitch, In Ficket field, vnleffe they be repulft.

Har. So nere our presence? dare they be so bold? And will prowd warre, and eager thirst of bloud, Whom we had thought to entertaine farre off, Presse forth upon vs in our native boundes? Must wee be forc't to hansell our sharp blades. In Englandhere, which we prepar'd for France? Well, a Gods name be it, what's their number? say, Or who's the chiefe commander of this rowt?

Hunt. Their number is not knowne, as yet (my Lord)
But its reported Sir Iohn Old-castle

Is the chiefe man, on whom they do depend.

Her. How the Lord Cobban?

Har. How, the Lord Cobham? Hunt. Yesiny gracious Lord.

Bish. I could have told your maiestie as much
Before he went, but that I saw your Grace

Was too much blinded by his flaterie.

Suf. Send poast my Lord to fetch him backe againe.
But. Traitor vinto his country, how he smooth de.

And seemde as innocent as Truthit selfe?

Har. I cannot thinke it yet, he would be falle, But if he be, no matter let him go,

Weele meet both him and them vnto their wo.

Bifs. This falls out well, and at the last I hope Excum To see this horetike die in a rope.

Enter Earle of Cambridge, Lord Scroope, Gray, and Charites the French factor.

Scroop. Once more my Lord of Cambridge make reherfal. How you do stand intiteled to the Crowne, The deeper shall we print it in our mindes, And euery man the better be resolu de,

When he perceives his quarrell to be iust. Cam. Then thus Lord Scroope, fir Thomas Gray, & you Mounsieur de Chartres, agent for the French, This Lionell Duke of Clarence, as I faid, Third sonne of Edward (Englands King) the third Hid issue Phillip his sole daughter and heyre, Which Phillip afterward was given in marriage, To Edmund Mortimer the Earle of March, And by him had a fon cald Roger Mortimer, Which Roger likewise had of his discent, Edmund, Roger, Anne, and Elianor, Two daughters and two fonnes, but those three Dide without issue, Anne that did survive, And now was left her fathers onely heyre, My fortune was to marry, being too By my grandfather of King Edwardes line, So of his firmame, I am calde you know, Richard Plantagenet, my father was, Edward the Duke of Yorke, and son and heyre To Edmund Langley, Edward the third's first sonne. Scroop So that it feemes your claime comes by your wife, As lawfull hevre to Roger Mortimes The fon of Edmund, which did marry Phillip Daughter and heyre to Lyonell Duke of Clarence. Cam. True, for this Harry, and his father both Harry the first, as plainely doth appeare,

Are falle intruders, and vsurp the Crowne, For when yong Richard was at Pomfret flaine,





sir Iohn Old-castle.

In him the title of prince Edward dide,
That was the eldett of king Edwards fonnes:
William of Hatfield, and their fecond brother,
Death in his nonage had before bereft:
So that my wife deriu'd from Lionell,
Third fonne vnto king Edward, ought projecte,
And take possession of the Diademe
Before this Harry, or his father king,
Who fetchttheir title but from Lancaster,
Forth of that royall line. And being thus,
Whatreason ist but she should have her right?
Scroope Iam resolu'de our enterprise is inst.

Gray Harry shall die, or else resigne his crowne. Chart. Performe but that, and Charles the king of France

Shall ayde you lordes, not onely with his men,
But send you money to maintaine your warres,
Fiue hundred thousand crownes he bade me proffer,
If you can stop but Harries voyage for France.

Scrope We neuer had a fitter time than now

The realme in such diuision as it is.

Camb. Besides, you must perswade yethere is due, Vengeance for Richards murder, which although It be deferred, yet will it fall at last, And now as likely as another time.

Sinne hath had many yeeres to ripen in, And now the haruest cannot be farre off, Wherein the weedes of vsurpation,

Are to be cropt, and cast into the fire.

Scroope No more earle Cambridge, here I plight my faith,

To fet vp thee, and thy renowned wife.

Gray Gray will performe the fame, as he is knight.

Chart. And to assist ye, as I said before, Charters doth gage the honor of his king.

Scroope We lacke but now Lord Cobhams fellowship, And then our plot were absolute indeede.

Camb. Doubt not of hun, my lord, his life's pursu'de

. .

Ey th'incensed Cleargy, and of late, Prought in displeasure with the king, affures He may be quickly wonne vnto our faction. Who hath the articles were drawne at large Of our whole purpose?

Gray That have I my Lord.

Camb. We should not now be farre off from his house,
Our serious conference hath beguild the way,
See where his castle stands, give me the writing.
When we are come unto the speech of him,
Because we will not stand to make recount,
Of that which hath beene saide, here he shall reade enter Cob.
Our mindes at large, and what we crave of him.

Scroope A ready way: here coines the man himselfe Booted and spurrd, it seems he hath beene riding.

Camb. V Vell met lord Cobham.
Cobh. My lord of Cambridge?
Your honor is most welcome into Kent,
And all the rest of this faire company.

I am new come from London, gentle Lordes: But will ye not take Cowling for your hoft, And fee what entertainement it affordes?

Camb. We were intended to have beene your guests: But now this lucky meeting shall suffice

To end our businesse, and deferre that kindnesse.

But to be mety? we have no delicates,
But this lle promise you, a peece of venison,
A cup of wine, and so forth: hunters fare:
And if you please, weele sinke the stagge our selves
Shall fill our dithes with his wel-fed fiesh.

Scroope That is indeede the thing we all defire.

Cobh. My lordes and you shall have your choice with me.

Camb. Nay but the stagge which we defire to strike,

Liucs not in Cowling: if you will confent, And goe with vs, weele bling you to a forrest,

where





sir fobn Old-castle.

Where runnes a lufty hierd: amongst the which There is a stagge superior to the rest, A stately beast, that when his fellows runne, He leades the race, and beates the sullen earth, As though he scorndit with his trampling hooses, Alost he beares his head, and with his breast, Like a huge bulwarke counter-checkes the winds. And when he standeth still, he stretcheth forth His prowd ambitious necke, as if he meant To wound the sirmament with forked hornes.

Cobb. Tis pitty such a goodly beast should die.

Cobh. Tis pitty such a goodly beast should de Camb. Not so, sir Iohn, for he is tyrannous, And gores the other deere, and will not keep Within the limites are appointed him.

Of late hees broke into a seueral,
Which doth belong to me, and there he spoiles
Both corne and pasture, two of his wilde race
Alike for stealth, and couctous incroatching,
Already are remou'd, if he were dead,

Already are remou'd, if he were dead, I should not onely be secure from hurt, But with his body make a royall feast.

Scroope How say you then, will you first hunt with vs? Cobb. Faith Lords, I like the passime, where s the place? Camb. Peruse this writing, it will shew you all,

And what occasion we have for the sport.

Cobb. Call ye this hunting, my lords? Is this the stag

You Giroung I the first our dead large?

You faine would chafe, Harry our dread king?
So we may make a banquet for the diuell,
And in the steede of wholsome meate, prepare
A dish of poison to confound our selues.

Camb. Why so lord Cobham? see you not our claime?

And how imperiously he holdes the crowne?

Scroope Resides, you know your selfe is in disgrace,
Held as a recreant, and pursude to death.

This will defend you from your enemies, And stablish your religion through the land.

2

Cob.

My fecret thoughts, to found the depth of it.
My lord of Cambridge, I doe fee your claime,
And what good may redound vnto the land,
By profecuting of this enterprife.
But where are men? where's power and furniture
To order fuch an action? we are weake,
Harry, you know's a mighty potentate.

Camb. Tur, we are strong enough, you are belou'de,
And many will be glad to follow you,
V Ve are the light, and some will follow vs:
Besides, there is hope from France: heres an embassador
That promiseth both men and money too.
The commons likewise (as we heare) pretend
A sodaine tumult, we will joyne with them

Cobb. Some likelihoode, I must confesse, to speede:
Put how shall I beleeue this is plaine truth?
You are (my lords) such men as live in Court,
And highly have beene favour dof the king,
Especially lord Scroope, whome oftenumes
He maketh choice of for his bedsellow.
And you lord Gray are of his privy councell:
Is not this a traine to intrappe my life?

Camb. Then perift may my foule: what thinke you fo? Scroope VV celes weare to you.

Gray Or take the facrament.

Cobb. Nay you are noble men, and I imagine, As you are honorable by birth and bloud, So you will be in heart, in thought, in word. I craue no other testimony but this.

That you would all subscribe, and set your hands Vnto this writing which you gave to me.

Camb. VVihall our hearts; who hath any pen and inke?
Scroope My pocket should have one: yea, heere it is.
Camb. Give it melord Scroope: there is my name.
Scroope And there is my name.

Gray





sir Iohn Old-castle

Gray And mine.

Cobb. Sir, let me craue,

That you would likewise write your name with theirs, For confirmation of your maisters word,

The king of Fraunce.

Char. That will I noble Lord.

Cobb. So now this action is well knit together,

And I am for you: where's our meeting, lords?

Camb. Here if you please, the tenth of Iuly next.

Cobb. In Kent?agreed: now let vs in to supper,

I hope your honors will not away to night.

Camb. Yes presently, for I have farre to ride,

About folliciting of other friends.

Scroope And we would not be absent from the court,

Lest thereby grow suspition in the king.

Cobb. Yet taste a cup of wine before ye go.

Camb. Not now my lord, we thanke you: so farewell.

Cob. Farewell my noble lordes: my noble lords?

My noble villeines, base conspirators, How can they looke his Highnessein the face,

Whome they so closly study to betray?

But ile not sleepe vntill I make it knowne. This head shall not be burdned with such thoughts,

Nor in this heart will I conceale a deede

Offuch impletie against my king.

Madam, how now? Enter Harpoole and the rest.

Lady cobb. You are welcome home, my Lord, Why seeme we so disquiet in your lookes?

What hath befalne you that disquiets your minde?

Lady Po. Bad newes I am afraide touching my husband. Cobb. Madam, not so: there is your husbands pardon,

Long may ye liue, each joy vnto the other.

Ponesse So great a kindnesse I knowe not howe to make reply, my sense is quite consounded.

Cohh. Let that alone: and madam stay me not,

For I must backe vnto the court againe

E 3

With

With all the speede I can: Harpoole, my house.

Lady Cob. So soone my Lord? what will you ride all night? Cobham All night or day it must be so, sweete wife,

Vrge me not why, or what my bufinefle is; But get you in: Lord Powelle, beare with me, And madam, thinke your welcome nere the worfe: My house is at your vie. Harpoo e, away.

H.orp. Shall I attend your lord(hip to the court? Cobh. Yea fir, your gelding, mount you prefently exe. Lady Cobb. I pivihee Harpoole, looke vnto thy Lord,

I do not like this todaine posting backe.

Powe. Some earnest businesse is a foote belike, Whate're it be, pray God be his good guide. Ludy Po. Amen that hath to highly vs bested.

Laar Co. Come madam, and my lord, weele hope the beft,

You thall not into Wales till he returne.

Poweffe Though great occasion be we should departe, vet madam will we stay to be resolude, of this violooks for doubtful accident.

Enter Murley and his men, prepared in some filthy order for marre. Murry. Come my hearts of flint, modellly, decently, foberly, and handsomly, no man afore his Leader, follow your master, your Captaine, your Knight that shalbe, for the honor of Meale-men, Millers, and Mault-men dunne is the mowse, Dicke and Tom for the credite of Dunstable, ding downe the enemie to morrow, ye shall not come into the field like beggars, wherebe I conard and Laurence my two loaders, Lord have mercie vpon vs, what a world is this? I would give a couple of shillings for a dozen of good sethers for ve, and forty pence for as many skarffes to fet ye out withall, frost and snow, a man has no heart to fight till he be braue.

Dicke Master I hope we be no babes, for our manhood, courbacklers, and our towne foote-balls can beare withche: and this lite parrell we have hall off, and weel fight naked at

fore we runne away.

Tom. Nay, I am of Laurence mind for that, for he meanes





sir John Old-castle.

to leave his life behind him, he and Leonard your two loaders are making their wills because they have wives, now we Bachellers bid our friends scramble for our goods if we die: but

master, prav ye let me tide vpon Cutte.

Murly Meale and falt, wheat and mault fire and tow, frost and show, why Tom thou shalt lettine see, here are you, William and George are with my cart, and Robin and Hodge holding my owne two horses, proper men, handsom men, tall men, true men.

Dicke But master, master, me thinkes you are a mad man, to hazard your owne person and a cart load of money too.

Tom. Yea, and maister theres a worse matter in t, if it be as I heard say, we go to fight against all the learned Bishops, that should give vs their blessing, and if they curse vs, we shall speede nere the better.

Dicke Nav bir lady, some say the King takes their part, and

master, dare you fight against the King?

Marly Fie pality, pality in and out, to and fro vpon occafion, if the King be so vnwise to come there, weele fight with him too.

Tom. What if ye should kill the King? Mur. Then weele make another.

Dicke Is that all, do ye not speake treason?

Mur. If we do, who date trippe vs? we come to fight for our conscience, and for honor, little know you what is in my bosome looke here madde knaues, a paire of guilt spurres.

Tom. A paire of golden spurres? why do you not put them

on your heeles? your bosome's no place for spurres.

Mur. Bee't more or lesse von occasion, Lord have mercy vs, Tom th'arta foole, and thou speakest treason to knight-hood, dare any weare golden or silver spurs til he be a knighteno, I shall be knighted to morrow, and then they shall on sirs, was it ever read in the church booke of Dunstable, that ever mault man was made knight?

Tom. No but you are more, you are meal-man, maultman,

miller, corne-mafter and all.

Dicke

-

Dicke Yea, and halfe a brewer too, and the diuell and all for wealth, you bring more money with you, than all the rest.

Mur. The more's my honor, I shal be a knight to morow, let me spose my men, Tom vpon cutte, Dicke vpon hobbe, Hodge vpon Ball, Raph vpon Sorell, and Robin vpon the forehorfe.

Enter Acton, Bourne, and Benerley.

Tom. Stand, who comes there? Act. Al friends, good fellow.

Murl. Friends and fellowes indeede fir Roger.

Alt. Why thus you shew your selfea Gentleman, To keepe your day, and come so well preparde, Your cart stands yonder, guarded by your men, Who tell me it is loaden well with come,

What summe is there?

Mur. Tenthousand pound fir Roger, and modestly, decently, foberly, and handfomely, fee what I have here against I be knighted.

All. Gilt spurs?tis well.

- Mur. Put where's our armie sir?

Act. Disperst in fundry villages about, Some here with vs in Hygate, some at Finchley, Totnam, Enfield, Edmunton, Newington, Islington, Hogsdon, Pancredge, Kenzington, Some neerer Thames, Ratcliffe, Blackwall and Bow, But our chiefe strength must be the Londoners, Which ete the Sunne to morrow shine,

Will be nere fiftie thousand in the field.

Mur. Mary God dild ve dannie my deere, but vpon occalion fir Roger Acton, deth not the King know of it, and gather his power against vs.

. Act. No, hee's secure at Eltham. Mur. What do the Cleargie?

Act. Feare extreamly, yet prepare no force. Mar. In and out, to and fro, Eullie my boikin, we shall carry.





sir John Old-castle.

carry the worldafore vs, I vow by my worthippe, when I am knighted, weele take the King napping, if he stand on their part.

All. This right we few in Higate will repofe, With the first cocke weele rise and arme our selues;

To be in Ficket fielde by breake of day,

And there expect our Generall.

Mar. Sir Old-castle, what if he come not Iohn?

Bourne Yet our action stands,

Sir Roger Acton may supple his place.

True M. Bourne but who shall make me knight?

Bener. He that hath power to be our Generall.
All. Talke not of trifles rome let's away,

Our friends of London long till it be day. exeans:

Enter for John of Wroutham and Doll.

Doll. By my troth, thou art as leleus a man as lines.

Priest Coult thou blame me Doll, thou art my fainds; my goods, my iewels, my wealth, my pure, no walks within forty miles of London, but a plies thee us truely, as the parish does the poore mans boxe.

Doll I am as true to thee, as the flore is in the wal, and thou knowest well enough fir Rohn, I was in as good doing, which I came to thee, as any wench heede to be : and therefore this is hast tried me that thou hast : by Gods body, I wil not be kept

as I have bin, that I will not.

Priest Doll, if this blade holde; their not a pedier walkes with a pack, but thou shalt as boldly thuse of his wares, as with thy ready mony in a Marchants shop, weele have as good sizuer as the King coynes any.

Doll What is althe gold fornt you tooke the last day from

the Courtier?

Priest Tis gone Dolletis flown, merely come, merely gon, he comes a horse backe that must pay for all; week haut as good meate, as mony can get, and as good gownes, as can be bought for gold, be mery wench; the mault-man comes on munday.

F

D. M You might have left me at Cobham, vntil you had bin

better prouided for.

Priest. No sweet Dol, no, I do not like that, you dold ruffian is not for the priest, I do not like a new cleark should come in the old bel-frie.

Doll Alithou art a mad priest yfaith.

Priest Come Doll, lessee thee safe at some alchouse here at Cray, and the next sheepe that comes shall leave his sleece.

Enter the Kinz, Suffolke and Butler.

King in great hast. My lord of Suffolk, poste away for life, And let our forces of such horse and soote, As can be gathered up by any meanes, Make speedy randeuow in Tuttle fields. It must be done this evening my Lord. This night the rebells meane to draw to head Neere Illington, which if your speede preuent not. If once they should vnite their seuerall forces, Their power is almost thought inuincible, Away my Lord I will be with you foone. . Suf. I go my Soueraigne with all happies peede. exit King Make haste my lord of Suffolke as you loue vs, Butler, polte you to London with all speede. Commaund the Major, and shrieues, on their alegiance, The cittie gates be presently shut vo. And guarded with a strong sufficient watch, And not a man be fuffered to palle, Without a speciall warrant from our selfe. Command the Posterne by the Tower be kept, And proclumation on the paine of death, That not a citizen stirre from his doores, Except fuch as the Maior and Shrieues shall chuse, For their owne guarde, and fafety of their persons, Butler away, have care viito my charge.

But. I goe my Soucraigne. King Butler.





sir Iohn Old-castle.

But. My Lord.

King Goe downe by Greenewich, and command a boate, At the Friers bridge attend my comming downe.

But. I will my Lord. exit

King It's time I thinke to looke vnto rebellion, When Acton doth expect vnto his ayd,

No lesse then fiftie thousand Londoners, Well, lie to Westminster in this disguise,

To heare what newes is stirring in these brawles.

Enter sir lohn.

Sir Iohn Stand true-man faies a thiefe.

. King Stand thiefe, faics a true man, how if a thiefe?

Sir Iohn Stand thiefe too.

King Then thiefe or true-man I fee I must stand, I see how some the world wagges, the trade of theeuing yet will neuer downe, what art thou?

fir Iohn A good fellow.

King So am I too, I fee thou dol't know me.

fir John. If thou be a good fellow, play the good fellowes part, deliuer thy purfe without more adoe.

King I haue no mony.

fir John I must make you find some before we part, if you have no mony you shall have ware, as many sound drie blows as your skin can carrie.

King Is that the plaine truth?

fir iohn Sirrano more adoe, come, come, giue me the mony

you have, dispatch, I cannot standall day.

King Wel, if thou wilt needs haue it, there tis: iust the prouerb, one thiefe robs another, where the diuel are all my old theeues, that were wont to keepe this walke? Falltaffethe villaine is so fat, he cannot get on's horse, but me thinkes Poines and Peto should be stirring here abouts.

fir Iohn How much is there on't of thy word?

King A hundred pound in Angels, on my word,
The time has beene I would have done as much
For thee, if thou hadft past this way, as I have now.



fir.lohn Sirra, what art thou, thou seem'st a gentlemant King I am no lesse, yet a poore one now, for thou hast all my mony.

fir loba From whence cam'st thous King From the court at Eltham.

fir John Art thou one of the Kings feruantst King Yes that I am, and one of his chamber.

fir John I am glad thou art no worfe, thou maift the better spare thy many, & thinkst thou thou mightst get a poor thicfe his pardon if he should have neede.

King. Yes that I can.

fir John Wilt thou do so much for me, when I shall have occasion?

King Yesfaith will I foit be for no murther.

fin loby Nay, I am a pittifull thiefe, all the hust I do a man, I take but his purfe, Ile kill man.

King Then of my word lle do it.

fir Iohn Giue me thy hand of the fame.

King There tis.

fir John Methinks the King should be good to theeues, because he has bin a thiefe himselfe, though I thinke now he be surned true-man.

King Faith I have heard indeed he has had an il name that way in his youth, but how canst thou tell he has beene a

thicfe?

fir Iohn How? because he once robde me before I fell to the trade my selfe, when that foule villainous guts, that led him to all that rogery, was in's company there, that Fal-staffe.

King afide. Well if he did rob thee then, thou are but even with him now He be sworne, thou knowest not the king now, I thinke, if thou sawest him?

fir John Not I yfaith,

King afide. So it should feeme.

fir John Well, if old King Henry had his de, this King that is now, had made theeuing the best trade in England.

King







fir fobn Old-castle.

King Why fo?

fir John Because he was the chiefewarden of our company, it's pittie that ere he should have bin a King, he was so brave a thiefe, but sirra, wilt remember my pardon if neede be?

King Yes faith will I.

fir John Wilt thou? well then because thou shalt go safe, for thou mayest hap (being so earely) be met with againe, before thou come to Southwarke, if any man when he should bid thee good morrow, bid thee stand, say thou but sir Iohu, and he will let thee passe.

King Is that the word? well then let me a alone.

fir John Nay firra, because I thinke indeede I shall have some occasion to vie thee, & as thou count oft this way, I may light on thee another time not knowing thee, here, ile breake this Angell, take thou halfe of it, this is a token betwixt thee and me.

King. God haue mercy, farewell.

fir Iohn O my fine golden flaues, heres for thee wench
yfaith, now Dol, we wil reucl in our beuer this is a tyth pigge
ofmy vicaridge, God haue mercy neigbour Shooters hill, you
paid your tyth honeftly. Wel I heare there is a company of rebelles vp against the King, got together in Fickle field neere
Holborne, and as it is thought here in Kenr, the King will be
there to night in's owne person, well ile to the Kings camp,

Enter King Henry, Suffolke, Huntington, and two

and it shall go hard, but if there be any doings, He make some

K.Hen. My Lords of Suffolke and of Huntington,
Who skouts it now? or who stands Sentinells?
What men of worth? what Lords do walke the round?
Suff. May it please your Highnesse.
K.Hen. Peace, no more of that,

The King's afleepe, wake not his maiestie,

good boote amongst them.

With

exit.

With termes nor titles, hee's at rest in bed, Kings do not vie to watch themselues, they sleepe, And let rebellion and conspiracie, Reuel and hauocke in the common wealth, Is London lookt vnto?

Hunt. It is my Lord,

Your noble Vncle Exceter is there,
Your holde Vncle Exceter is there,
Your brother Gloucester and my Lord of Warwicke,
Who with the major and the Aldermen,
Do guard the gates, and keepe good rule within,
The Earle of Cambridge, and sir Thomas Gray,
Do walke the Round, Lord Scroope and Butler skout,
So though it please your majestie to jest,

Were you in bed, well might you take your rest,

K.Hen. I thank ye Lords, but you do know of old, That I have bin a perfect night-walker, London you say is safely lookt vnto, Alas poore rebels, there your ayd must faile, And the Lord Cobham fir Iohn Old-castle, Hee's quiet in Kent, Acton ye are deceiu'd, Reckon againe, you count without your host, To morrow you shall give account to vs, Til when my friends, this long cold winters night, How can we spend? King Harry is a sleepe, And al his Lords, these garments tel vs so, Al friends at footebal, fellowes all in field, Harry, and Dicke, and George, bring vs a drumme, Giue vs square dice, weele keepe this court of guard, For al good fellowes companies that come. Wheres that mad priest ye told me was in Armes, To fight, as wel as pray, if neede required?

Suff. Hees in the Camp, and if he knew of this, I undertake he would not be long hence.

Har. Trippe Dicke, Trippe George. Hunt. I must have the dice,

What do we play at?

they trippe.

the play at dice.

Suff.





sir Iobn Old-castle

Suff. Passage if ye please.

Hunt. Setround then, so, at all.

Har. George, you are out.

Giue me the dice, I passe for twentie pound, Heres to our luckie passage into France.

Hunt. Harry you palle indeede for you sweepe all.
Suff. A figne king Harry shalfweep al in France. ent. sir Iohn
fir Iohn Edge ye good fellowes, take a fresh gamster in.

Har. Master Parson? we play nothing but gold?

fir Iohn. And fellow, I tel thee that the priest hath gold, gold: sbloud ye are but beggerly fouldiers to me, I thinke I have more gold than all you three.

Hunt. It may be so, but we beleeve it not.

Har. Set priest set, I passe for all that gold.

Go to have Year set indeed.

fir Iohn Ye passe indeede.

Harry Priest, hast thou any more?
for John Zounds what a question's that?
I tell thee I have more then all you three,
At these ten Angells.

Harry. I wonder how thou comst by all this gold,

How many benefices half thou prieft?

Iwonder rather how poore fouldiers should have gold. I wonder rather how poore souldiers should have gold, for Ile tell thee good sellow, we have every day tythes, offerings, christnings, weddings, burialls: and you poore snakes come seldome to a bootie. Ile speake a prowd word, I have but one parsonage, Wrootham, tis better than the Bishopprick of Rochester, there snere a hill, heath, nor downe in all Kent, but tis in my parish, Barrham downe, Chobham downe, Gads hill, Wrootham hill, Blacke heath, Cockes heath, Birchen wood, all pay metyshe, gold quoth at ye passent for that.

Suff. Harry ye are out, now parfon shake the dice.

fir Iohn. Set, set Ile couer ye, at al; A plague on't I am out,
the diuell, and dice, and a wench, who will trust them?

Suff. Saift thou lo priest? set faire, at all for once.

Har. Out sir, pay all.

3

sir Iohn

fir Iohn Sbloud pay me angel gold, Ile none of your crackt French crownes not pistoleis, Pay me faire angel gold, as I pay you.

Har. No crackt french crownes? I hope to lee more crackt

french crownes ere long.

fir John Thou meaneft of French mens, crownes when the

Hwint. Set round, at all.

fir Ihon Payall: this is fome lucke.

Har. Gine me the dice, tis I mall thread the pricht

Avail fir Polin.

fir Iohn The divell and all is yours: at that: Ideath; what casting is this?

Suff. Well throwne Harry yfaith.

Har. Ile cast better yet.

for John Then lie be hanged. Sura, haft thou not given thy foule to the divell for calling?

Har. I passe for alk

fir John Thou palleft all that ere I playde withall:

Sirra, do st thou hot rogge, hot fold, hor Mirre?

Har. Set parson, set, the diec die in my hand:

When parson, when? what can ye finde no more?

After the want you braged of your store?

Alls gotte but that.

Hunt. What, halfe a broken angell!

fir then Why fir, us gold. Har: Yes, and He couch it.

for them The divelled ye good on t, I am blinde, yee have blowne me vo.

Hor. Nay tarry priest, ye shall not leave vs yet,

Do not these peeces fit each other well!

fir Ibon What if they do?

Ha. Thereby beginnera tale:

There was a thicke, in face thinch like it Tohin, But t was not hee, that thicke was all in greene, Met me last day on Blacke Heath, neede the parke,

with





sir fobn Old-castle.

With him a woman, I was al alone,
And weaponlesse, my boy had almy tooles,
And was before prouiding me a boate:
Shorttale to make, sir lohn, the thiefe I meane,
Tooke a insthundreth poundingold from me.
I storm dat it, and swore to be reueng de
If ere we met, he like a lusty thiefe,
Brake with his teeth this Angel rust in two,
To be a token at our meeting next,
Prouided, I should charge no Officer
To apprehend him, but at weapons point
Recouer that, and what he had beside.
Well met sir lohn, betake ye to your tooles
By torch light, for master parson you are he
That had my gold.

fir Iohn Zounds I won't in play, in faire square play of the keeper of Eltham parke, and that I will mamtaine with this poorewhinyard, be you two honest men to stand and looke

vpon's, and let's alone, and take neither part.

Har. Agreede, I charge ye do not boudge a foot,

Sir Iohn haue at ye.

fir Iohn Souldier ware your skonce.

Here as they are ready to firthe enter Butler and drawes his weapon and steps betwint them.

But. Hold villaines hold, my Lords, what do ye meane,

To see a traitor draw against the King?

fir Iohn The King! Gods wil, I am in a proper pickle.

Har. Butler what newes: why doft thou trouble vs?

But. Please it your Highnesse, it is breake of day,

And as I skouted neere to Ishington,

The gray cy'd morning gaue me glimmering, Of armed men comming downe Hygate hill, Who by their course are coasting hitherward.

Har. Let vs withdraw, my Lords, prepare our troopes, To charge the rebels, if there be fuch cause,

For this lewd priest this dinellish hypocrite,

That

That is a thiefe, a gamster, and what not, Let him be hang'd vp for example fake.

fir lobn Not lo my gracious soueraigne, I confesse I am a frayle man, flesh and bloud as other are: but set my imperfections afide, by this light we have not a taller man nor a truer fubicht to the Crowne and State, than fir Iohn of V Vrootham.

Har. Wil a true subject robbe his King?

fir I.hn Alas twas ignorance and want, my gracious liege. Har. Twas want of grace: why, you should be as falt To feafon others with good document, Your lives as lampes to give the people light,

As shepheards, not as wolues to spoile the flock,

Go hang hm Butler.

But. Didst thou not rob me?

fir John I must confesse I saw some of your gold, but my dread Lord, I am in no humor for death, therfore faue my life, God will that sinners live, do not you cause me die, once in their lives the belt may goe aftray, and if the world fay true. your felfe (my liege) haue bin a thiefe.

Har. I confesse I haue,

But I repent and have reclaimed my selfe.

fir Iohn So will I do if you will give me time.

Har. Wilt thou?my lords, will you be his fuerties? Hunt. That when he robs againe, he shall be hang'd.

fir icha I aske no more.

Har. And we will grant thee that, Liue and repent, and proue an honest man, Which when I heare, and fafe returne from France. He give thee living, till when take thy gold, But spendit better then at cards or wine, For better vertues fit that coate of thine.

for Io'in Vinct Rex & carrat lex, my liege, if ye have cause of battell, ye shalfee fir Iohn of Wrootham bestirre himself in vour quarrel.

After an alarum enter Harry, Suffolk, Humington, fir John, bringsny forth Allan Benerly and Murley prisoners.

Har





sir Iohn Old-castle.

Har. Bring in those traitors, whose aspiring minds,
Thought to have triumpht in our overthrow,
But now ye see, base villaines, what successe
Attends ill actions wrongfully attempted.
Sir Roger Acton, thou retainst the name
Ofknight, and shouldst bemore discreetly temperd,
Than ioyne with peasants, gentry is divine,
But thou hast made it more then popular.

Act. Pardon my Lord, my confcience vrg'd me to it,
Har. Thy confcience then thy confcience is corrupt;
For in thy confcience thou art bound to vs,
And in thy confcience thou should thou thy country,
Else what's the difference twist a Christian,

And the vnciuil manners of the Turke?

Bener. We meant no hurt vnto your maiesty,

But reformation of Religion.

Har. Reforme Religion?was it that ye fought?

I pray who gaue you that authority?
Belike then we do hold the scepter vp,
And sit within the throne but for a cipher,
Time was, good subjects would make knowne their griefe,
And pray amendment, not inforce the same,
Vnlesse their King were tyrant, which I hope
You cannot justly say that Harry is,
What is that other?

Suff. A mault-man my Lord, And dwelling in Dunstable as he saies.

Hari Sirra what made you leave your barly broth,

To come in armour thus against your King?

Mur. Fie paltry, paltry to and fro, in and out vpon occasion, what a worlde's this? knight-hood (my liege) twas knight-hood brought me hither, they told me I had wealth enough to make my wife a lady.

Har. And so you brought those horses which we saw,

Trapt all in costly furniture, and meant

To weare these spurs when you were knighted once.

G 2

Mur.

Mur. In and out vport occasion I did.

Har. In and out uppon occasion, therefore you shall be hang'd, and in the sted of wearing these spurres upon your heeles, about your necke they shall bewray your folly to the world.

fir lohn In and out vpon ocasion, that goes hard.

Mur Fie paltry paltry, to and fro, good my liege a pardon, I am fory for my fault.

Har. That comes too late: but tell me, went there none Befide fir Roger Acton, you whom

You did depend to be your governour?

Mar. None none my Lord, but fir Iohn Old-caftle.

Har. Beares he part in this conspiracie. enter Bishop

AEt. We lookt my Lord that he would meet vs kere. Har. But did he promile you that he would come.

ASt. Such letters we received forth of Kent.

Bish. Where is my Lord the Kingthealth to your grace, Examining my Lord foine of these caitiue rebels. It is a generall voyce amongst them all, That they had never come vnto this place, But to have met their valiant general, The good Lord Cobham as they title him, Whereby, my Lord, your grace may now perceive, His treason is apparant, which before He sought to colour by his flattery.

Her. Now by my rotalitie I would have fworne; But for his confcience, which I beare withall, There had not liude a more true hearted subject.

And therefore may it please your maiestie,
To set your hand vato this precept here,
By which weel cause him for the in appeare,
And answer this by order of the law.

Har. Bilhop, not only that, but take commission, To search, attach, imprison, and condemne, This most not pricas traitor as your pleases

Bis.





sir John Old-castle.

Bif. It shall be done, my Lord, without delay: So now I hold Lord Cobham in my hand, That which shall finish thy distained life.

Har. I thinke the yron age begins but now,
(Which learned poets haue so often taught)
Wherein there is no credit to be giuen,
To either wordes, or lookes, or solemne oathes,
For if there were, how often hath he sworne,
How gently tun de the musicke of his tongue,
And with what amiable face beheld he me,
When all, God knowes, was but hypocrise.

Cob. Long life and prosperous raigne vnto my Lord.

Har. Ah villaine, canst thou wish prosperitie,

Whose heart includeth naught but treacherie?

I do arrest thee here my selfe, false knight,

Oftreason capitall against the state.

Cob. Of treason mightie prince, your grace mistakes,

Ihopeitis but in the way of mirth.

Har. Thy necke shall feele it is in earnest shortly,
Darst thou intrude into our presence, knowing
How haynously thou hast offended vs?
But this is thy accustomed deceit,
Now thou perceiust thy purpose is in vaine,
With some excuse or other thou wilt come,
To cleere thy selfe of this rebellion.

Cob. Rebellion good my Lord, I know of none.

Har. If you deny it, here is euidence, See you these men, you neuer councelled, Nor offerd them assistance in their warres

Cob. Speake firs, not one but all, I craue no fauour,
Haue euer I beene converfant with you,
Or written letters to incourage you,
Or kindled but the least or smallest part,
Of this your late vanatural rebellion?
Speake for I dare the viterinost you can.

Mar. Juand out woon according I know you take

Mur, In and out vpon occasion I know you not.

Har.



Har. No, didl not fay that fir Iohn Old-caftle, Was one with whom you purpose to have met? Mar. True, I did say so, but in what respect? Because I heard it was reported so.

Har. Was there no other argument but that?

All. To cleere my confcience ere I die my lord,
I must confesse, we have no other ground
But only Rumor, to accuse this lord,
Which now I see was merely fabulous.

Har. The more pernitious you to taint him thea, Whome you knew not was faulty yea or no.

Cobb. Let this my Lord, which I present your grace Speake for my loyalty, reade these articles, And then give sentence of my life or death.

Har. Earle Cambridge, Scroope, and Gray corrupted With bribes from Charles of France, either to winne My Crowne from me, or fecretly contriue My death by treason? Is this possible?

Cobb. There is the platforme, and their hands, my lord,

Each seuerally subscribed to the same.

Har. Oh neuer heard of base ingratitude!
Euen those I hugge within my bosome most,
Are readiest cuermore to sting my heart.
Pardon me Cobham, I have done thee wrong,
Heereafter I will live to make amends.
Is then their time of meeting so neere hand?
Weele meete with them, but little for their ease,
If God permit: goe take these rebells hence,
Let them have martiall law: but as for thee,
Friend to thy king and country, still be free.

Exeunt.

Murl. Be it more or leffe, what a world is this?
Would I had continued fill of the order of knaues,
And neuer fought knighthood, fince it costes
So deere: fir Roger, I may thanke you for all.

Action Now tis too late to haue it remedied, I prithee Murley doe not vrge me with it.

Hum.





sir Iohn Old-castle

Hunt. Will you away, and make no more to do?
 Murl. Fy paltry paltry, to and fro, as occasion ferues,
 If you be so hastly take my place.
 Hunt. No good fir knight, you shall begin in your hand.

Murl. I could be glad to give my betters place. Exeunt.

Euter Bishop, lord Warden, Croamer the Shriene, Lady Cob. and attendants.

Bishop I tell ye Lady, its not possible
But you should know where he conucies himselfe,
And you have hid him in some secret place.

Lady My Lord, beleeue me, as I haue a soule,

I know not where my lord my husband is.

Biftop. Go to, go to, ye are an heretike,

And will be fore de by torture to confesse,

If faire meanes will not serue to make ye tell.

Lady My husband is a noble gentleman,
And needenot hide hinfelfe for anie fact
That ere I heard of, therefore wrong him not.

Bishop Your husband is a dangerous schissaticke,
Traitor to God, the King, and common wealth,
And thererefore master Croamer shrieue of Kent,
I charge you take her to your custodie,
And ceaze the goods of Sir Iohn Old-castle
To the Kings vse, let her go in no more,
To fetch so much as her apparell out,
There is your warrant from his maiestie.

L. War. Good my Lord Bishop pacific your wrath. Against the Lady.

Bis. Then let her confesse

Where Old-castle her husband is conceald.

L.War. I dare engage mine honor and my life.
Poore gentlewoman, the is ignorant,
And innocent of all his practifes,
If any euill by him be practifed.

Bis. If my Lord Warden!nay then I charge you,

Thin

That all the cinque Ports whereof you are chiefe, Belaid forthwith, that he escape vs not,

Shew him his highnesse warrant M. Shrieue.

L. War. I am sorie for the noble gentleman, Enter Old-ca-Bish. Peace, he comes here, now do your office. file & Harp. Old-eastle Harpoole what businesse have we here in hand? VV hat makes the Bishop and the Shiriffe here, I feare my comming home is dangerous,

I would I had not made fuch hafte to Cobham.

Harp. Fe of good cheere my Lord, if they before weele foramble shrewdly with them, if they be friends they are welcome: one of them (my Lord Warden) is your friend, but me thinkes my ladie weepes, I like not that.

Croo. Sir Iohn Old-castle Lord Cobham, in the Kings

maiesties name, I arrest ve of high treason.

Oldea. Treason M. Croomes?

Harp. Treason M.Shrieue, sbloud what treason?

Oldea. Harpoole I charge thee stirre not, but be quiet still, Do ye arrest me M. Shrieue for treason?

Buh. Yea of high treason, traitor, heretike. Oldea. Defiance in his face that calls me lo,

I am as true a lovall gentleman

Vnto his highnesse, as my providest enemie, The King shall witnesse my late faithfull service, For fafety of his facred maiestie.

Bis. VV hat thou art, the kings hand shall testifie,

Shewt him Lord Warden.

Old. Ielu defend me, Is tpossible your cunning could so temper The princely disposition of his mind, To figne the damage of a royall subject? Well, the best is, it beares an antedate, Procured by my absence, and your malice, But I, fince that, have shewd my selfe as true, As any churchman that dare challenge me, Let me be brought before his maieltie,





sir fohn Old-castle.

If he acquite me not, then do your worst.

Bish. We are not bound to do kind offices
For any traitor, schissinatike, nor heretike,
The kings hand is our warrant for our worke,
Who is departed on his way for France,
And at Southhampton doth repose this night.

Harp. O that it were the blessed will of God, that thou and I were within twenty mile of it, on Salisbury plaine! I would lose my head if euer thou broughtst thy head hither againe.

Rochester, ye are in one Commissioners, fauor me so much,

On my expence to bring me to the king.

Bifb. What, to Southhampton?

Olden. Thither my god Lord,

And if he do not cleere me of al guilt,

And all sufficient of conspiracie,

Pawning his princely warrant for my truth:

I aske no fauour, but extreamest torture.

Bring me, or send me to him, good my Lord,

Good my Lord Warden, M Shrieue, entreate.

Here the Lord Warden, and Cromer uncouer to the Bishop, and secretly whispers with him.

Come hither lady, nay, fweet wife forbeare,
To heape one forrow on anothers necke,
Tis griefe enough falfly to be accusse,
And not permitted to acquite my selfe,
Do not thou with thy kind respective teares,
Torment thy husbands heart that bleedes for thee,
But be of comfort, God hath help in store,
For those that put assured trust in him.
Deere wise, if they commit me to the Tower,
Come vp to London to your sisters house:
That being neere me, you may comfort me.
One solace find I setled in my soule,
That I am free from treasons very thought,

Only my conscience for the Gospels sake, Is cause of all the troubles I sustaine.

Lady. O my deere Lord, what shall betide of vs?
You to the Tower, and I turnd out of doores,
Our substance ceazed into his high nesselect,
Euen to the garments longing to our backes.

Harp. Patience good madame, things at worst will mend,

And if they doe not, vet our lives may end.

Bish. Vrge it no more, for if an Angell spake, I sweare by sweet saint Peters blessed keyes, First goes he to the Tower, then to the stake.

Crom. But by your leave, this warrant doth not ftretch

To imprison her.

Bisop No turne her out of doores, L. Warden and Euen as the is, and leade him to the Tower, Otheraftle whilper. With guard enough for feare of rescuing.

Lady O God requite thee thou bloud-thirsty man.
Oldea. May it not be my Lord of Rochester?

Wherein haue I incurd your hate so farre, That my appeale viito the King's denide?

Bish. No hate of mine, but power of holy church,

Forbids all fauor to false heretikes.

Oldea. Your private malice more than publike power, Strikes most at me, but with my life it ends.

aside

Harp. O that I had the Bishop in that feare, That once I had his Summer by our selues.

Crom. My Lord yet graunt one fute vnto vs all, That this fame auncient feruing man may waite Vpon my lord his master in the Tower.

That in contempt of our church discipline,
Compeld my Summer to deuoure his processes
Old Ruffian past-grace, vpstart schissmatike,
Had not the King prayd vs to pardon ye,
Ye had fryed for it, ye grizild heretike.

Harp. Shloud my lord Bishop, ye do me wrong, I am nei-





sir Iohn Old-castle

ther heretike nor puritane, but of the old church, ile sweare, drinke ale kusse a wench, go to masse, eate fish all Lent, and fast fridaies with cakes and wine, fruite and spicerie, shrine me of my old sinnes afore Easter, and beginnenew afore whitsoutide.

Crom. A merie mad conceited knaue my lord.

Harp. That knaue was fimply put vpon the Bishop.

Bish. - VVel, God forgive him and I pardon him.

Let him attend his master in the Tower, For I in charity with his soule no hurt.

Oldea God bleffemy soule from such cold charitie,

Bif. Too'th Tower with him, and when my leisure serues, I will examine him of Articles,

Looke my lord Warden as you have in charge,

The Shriue performe his office.

L. Ward. Yes my lord.

Enter the Sumner with bookes.

Bis. VVhat bringst thou there? what? bookes of herefie.

Som. Yea my lord, heres not a latine booke, No not so much as our ladies Psalter,

Heres the Bible, the testament, the Psalmes in meter, The sickemans salue, the treasure of gladnesse,

And al in English, not so much but the Almanack's English.

Bish. Away with them, to'th fire with them Clun,

Now fie vpon these vpstart heretikes,

Al English, burne them, burne them quickly Chin.

Harp. But doe not Sumner as you leanswere it, for I have there English bookes my lord, that ile not part with for your Bishoppricke, Beuis of Hampton, Owleglasse, the Frier and the Boy, Ellen of Rumming, Robin hood, and other such godly stories, which if ye burne, by this slesh ile make ye drink their ashes in S. Margets ale.

Enter the Bishop of Rochester with his men, in lucrie coates.

1. Ser. Is it your honors pleasure we shal stay, Or come backe in the afternoone to setch you.

Bifb.

Bish. Now you have brought me heere into the Tower, You may go backe vnto the Porters Lodge, And send for drinke or such things as you want, Where if I have occasion to imploy you, Ile send some officer to cal you to me. Into the cittie go not, I commaund you, Perhaps I may have present neede to vie you.

2 We will attend your worship here without.

Bish. Doso, I pray you.

3 Come, we may have a quart of wine at the Rofe at Barking, I warrant you, and come backe an hower before he be ready to go.

excunt.

I We must hie vs then.

2 Letsaway.

Bish. Ho, M. Lieftenant.

Lieften. Who calls there? Bish. A friend of yours.

Lieften. My lord of Rochester, your honor's welcome.

Bish. Sir heres my warrant from the Counsell,

For conference with fir John Old-castle, Vpon some matter of great consequence.

Lieften. Ho, sir Iohn. Harp. Who calls there?

Lieften. Harpoole, tel Sir Iohn, that my lord of Rochester comes from the counsell to conferre with him.

Harp. I will fir.

Lief. I thinke you may as fafe without suspition,

As any man in England as I heare,

For it was you most labor d his commitment.

Bish. I did fir, and nothing repent it I affure you. Enter fir Iohn Old-caftle.

M. Lieftenant I pray you giue vs leaue, I must conferre here with fir Iohn a little.

Lief. With all my heart my lord. Harpaside. My lord be rulde by me, take this occasion while is offered, and on my life your lordship shal escape. Old-ca.





sir John Old-castle.

Old-ca. No more I say, peace lest he should suspect it.

Bish Sir Iohn I am come vnto you from the lords of his highnesse most honorable counsell, to know if yet you do recant your errors, conforming you vnto the holy church.

Old-ca. My lord of Rochester on good aduise,

I fee my error, but yet vnderstand me,
I meane not error in the faith I hold,
But error in submitting to your pleasure,
Therefore your lordship without more to do,
Must be a meanes to help me to escape.

Bis. What meanes? thou heretike?

Darst thou but lift thy hand against my calling?

fir Iohn No not to hurt you for a thousand pound, Harp. Nothing but to borrow your vpper garments a little; not a word more, for if you do, you die: peace, for waking the children, there, put them on, dispatch, my lord, the window that goes out into the leads, is sure enough, I told you that before, there, make you ready, ile conuay him after, and bind

him furely in the inner roome.

Old-ca. This is wel begun, God fend vs happie speed,
Hard shift you see men make in time of need: Harpoole.

Harp. Heere my Lord, come come away.

Enter serving men againe.

I I maruell that my lord should stay so long.

2 He hath fent to fecke vs, I dare lay my life.

3 We come in good time, fee where he is comming.

Harp. I befeech you good my lord of Rochester, be fauorable to my lord and maister.

Old-ca. The inner roomes be very hot and close,

I do not like this ayre here in the Tower.

Harp His case is hard my lord, you shall safely get out of the Tower, but I will downe vpon them, in which time get you away.

Old-ca. Fellow thou troublest me.

Harp. Heare me my Lord, hard under Islington wait you my comming, I will bring my Lady ready, with horses

to conuay you hence.

Old-ca. Fellow, go back agains vnto thy Lord and counfell him.

Hurp. Nay my good lord of Rochester, ile bring you to S. Albons through the woods, I warrant you.

Old-ca. Villaine away.

Harp. Nay fince I am past the Towers libertie, thou part'st not so.

Bis. Clubbes, clubs, clubs.

1 Murther, murther murther.

2 Downe with him.

shey fight.

3 A villaine traitor.

Harp. You cowardly rogues. fir lobnescapes.

Enter Lieftenant and his men.

Lieft. Who is so bold as dare to draw a sword,

So near evinto the entrance of the Tower?

I This ruffian servant to sir John Old-cassle was like to have slaine my Lord.

Lieft. Lay hold on him.

Harp. Stand off if you love your puddings.

Rochester calls muhin.

Roch within. Help help, help, M. Lieftenant help.

Lief. Who's that within fome treason in the Tower vpon my life, looke in, who's that which calls? enter Roch bound.

Lie/. Without your cloke my lord of Rochester?

Harp. There, now it workes, then let me speed, for now is

the fittest time for me to scape away.

Lief. Why do you looke so ghastly and affrighted?

Roch. Old-castle that traitor and his man, When you had left me to conferre with him, Tooke, bound, and stript me, as you see, And left me lying in his inner chamber,

And so departed, and I

Lief. And you incre say that the Lord Cobhams man

Did here fet vpon you like to murther you.

I And so he did.

Rock.





sir Iohn Old-castle.

Roch. It was vpon his master then he did, That in the brawle the traitor might escape.

Lief. Where is this Harpoole?

2 Here he was euen now.

Lief. Where can you tell? they are both escap'd, Since it so happens that he is escap de,

I am glad you are a witnesse of the same, It might have esse been laid vnto my charge,

That I had been consenting to the fact.

Roch. Come, search shall be made for him with expedition, the hauens laid that he shall not escape, and hue and crie continue thorough England, to find this damned dangerous here-tike.

exeunt.

Enter Cambridge, Scroope, and Gray, as in a chamber, and see downe at a table, consulting about their treason: King Harry

and Suffolke listning at the doore.

Camb. In mine opinion, Scroope hath well aduisde,
Poison will be the only aptest meane,
And fittest for our purpose to dispatch him.

Gray But yet there may be doubt in their deliuery, Harry is wife, therefore Earle of Cambridge,

I Judge that way not fo convenient.

Scroop What thinke ye then of this? I am his bedfellow,

And vnsuspected nightly sleepe with him.
VVhat if I venture in those silent houres,
VVhen sleepe hath sealed vp all mortall eies,
To murder him in bed?how like ye that?

Camb. Herein confiftes no fafetie for your felfe, Andyou difcloste, what shall become of vs? Butthis day (as ye know) he will aboord,

The wind so faire, and set away for France,
If as he goes, or entring in the ship,

It might be done, then it were excellent,

Gray VV hy any of the fe, or if you will,

Ile cause a present sitting of the Councell,

VV herein I will pretend some matter of such weight,

As needes must have his royall company,
And to dispatch him in the Councell chamber.

Camb. Tush, yet I heare not any thing to purpose,
I wonder that lord Cobham states so long,
His counsell in this case would much awaile vs.

They rise from the table and the King step: into them with his Lordes.

Scroop What shal we rife thus, and determine nothing? Har. That were a shame indeede, no, sit againe, And you thall have my counfell in this cafe, If you can find no way to kill this King, Then you shall see how I can further ve, Scroopes way by poison was indifferent, But yet being bed-fellow vnto the King, And vnfuspected sleeping in his befome, In mine opinion, that's the likelier way, For such false friends are able to do much, And filent night is Treason's fittest friend, Now, Cambridge in his fetting hence for France, Or by the way, or as he goes aboord, To do the deed, that was indifferent too, Yet somewhat doubtful; might I speake my mind, For many reasons needelesse now to vige. Mary Lord Gray came something neare the point, To have the King at councell, and there murder him, As Cæfar was amongst his dearest friends: None like to that, if all were of his mind. Tell me oh tel me you bright honors staines, For which of all my kindnesses to you, Are ye become thus traitors to your king? And France must have the spoile of Harries life?

All. Oh pardon vs dreadlord. all kneeling.

Har. How pardon ye? that were a finne indeed,

Drag them to death, which infly they deferue, they leade

And France shall dearely buy this villany, them away.

So soone as we set footing on her breast,

God





sir fohn, Old-castle.

God have the praise for our deliverance,
And next, our thankes (Lord Cobham) is to thee,
True perfect mirror of nobilitie.

exeum.

Enter the hoste, sir John Old-sastle, and Harpoole.

Hoste Sir, you are welcome to this house, to such as heere is with all my heart, but by the masse I feare your lodging wilbe the woorst, I have but two beds, and they are both in a chamber, and the carier and his daughter lies in the one, and you and your wife must lie in the other.

.L. Cobb. In faith fir, for my selfe I doe not greatly passe,

My wife is weary, and would be at rest, For we have traveld very far to day, We must be content with such as you have.

Hofe But I cannot tell how to doe with your man.

Harpoole What, hast thou neuer an empty roome in thy

house for me?

Hoste Not a bedde by my troth: there came a poore Irish man, and I lodgde him in the barne, where he has faire straw, though he have fothing else.

Harp. Well mine hoste, I pray thee helpe mee to a payre of

faire sheetes, and He go lodge with him.

Hoste By the masse that thou shalt, a good payre of hempen sheetes, were neuer laine in : Come. exemn.

Enter Constable, Maior, and Watch.

Maior What have you fearcht the towne?

Coult All the towne fir, we have not left a house vnsearche

that vies to lodge.

Maior Surely my lord of Rochester was then deceiude,
Or ill informed of sir Iohn Old-castle,
Or if he came this way hees past the towne,
He could not else have scapt you in the search.

Conf. The priny watch hath beene abroad all night,
And not a stranger lodgeth in the towne
But he is knowne, onely a lusty priest
VVe found in bed with a pretty wench,

That

That faves she is his wife, yonder at the sheeres: But we have charged the hofte with his forth comming To morow morning.

Maior What thinke you best to do?

Conft. Faith mailter maior, heeres a few ftragling houses beyond the bridge, and a little Inne where cariers vie to lodge, though I thinke furely he would nere lodge there: but weele go fearch, & the rather, because there came notice to the towne the last night of an Irish man, that had done a murder, whome we are to make fearch for.

Maior Come I pray you, and be circumspest. Conft. First beset the house, before you begin the search.

Officer Content, euery man take a feuerall place. beere is heard a great noyse within.

Keepe, keepe, strike him downe there, downe with him. Enter Constable with the Irish man in Harpooles apparell. Con. Come you villainous heretique, confesse where your maister is-

Irill man Vat mefter?

Maior Vatmester, you counterfeit rebell, this shall not scrue your turne.

Irihman Besent Patrike I hano mester.

Con. VVIières the lord Cobham fir Iohn Old-cafile that lately is escaped out of the Tower.

Irif min Vat lort Cobham?

Major You counterfeit, this shal not ferue you, weele torture you, weele make you to confesse where that arch-heretique Lord Cobham is : come binde him falk

Ir: si man Ahone, ahone, a Cree.

Con. Ahone, you crafty rascall?

Lord Cobham comes out in his gowne flealing.

Cobh. Harpoole, Harpoole, I heare a maruelous noyle about the houle, God warant vs, I feare wee are purfued: what Harpoole.

Harp within. VVho calles there?

Cobb. Tis I, dost thou not heare a noyfe about the house? Harp.





fir John Old-castle.

Harp. Yes mary doe I, zwounds, I can not finde my hose, this Irish rascall that was lodgde with me all night, hath stolne my apparell, and has lest me nothing but a low sie mantle, and a paire of broags. Get vp. get vp, and if the carier and his wench be assepped with them as he hath done with me, and see if we can escape.

A noyse againe heard about the house, a pretty while, then enter the Constable meeting Hurpoole in the Irish nams appar-

rell.

Con. Stand close, heere comes the Irish man that didde the murther, by all tokens, this is he.

Maior And perceiuing the house beset, would get away:

Stand firra.

Harp. What art thou that bidft me ftand?

Con. I am the Officer, and am come to fearch for an Irish man, such a villaine as thy selfe, that hast murthered a man this last night by the hie way.

Harp. Sbloud Constable, art thou madde? am I an Irish

man?

Maior Sirra, weele finde you an Irish man before we parts lay hold upon him.

Con. Makehimfast: O thou bloudy rogue!

Enter Lord (obbam and his lady in the carrier and wenches apparrell.

Good morow, good morow, Come wench, come, Saddle, faddle, now afore God too foord-dayes, ha?

Con. Who comes there?

Maior Oh tis Lankashire carier, let him passe.

Cobham What, will no body open the gates here?

Come, lets int stable to looke to our capons.

Club calling Hoste, why offler, zwookes, heres such a bomination company of boies: a pox of this pigstie at the house end, it filles all the house full offleas, offler, offler.

Ofter Who calles there, what would you have?

.

Club

Club Zwookes, do you robbe your ghests? doe you lodge rogues and slaues, and scoundrels, ha? they ha stolne our cloths here: why ostler?

Offler A murrein choake you, what a bawling you keepe.
Hose How now, what woulde the carrier haue? looke yo

there.

Offler They say that the man and woman that lay by them

haue stolne their clothes.

Hosse VVhat, are the strange folkes vp yet that came in yester night?

Const. VV hat mine hoste, vp so early?

Hosse VVhat, maister Maior, and maister Constables
Maior VVe are come to seeke for some suspected persons,
and such as heere we found, have apprehended.

Enter the Carrier and Kate in lord Cobham and ladies apparell.

Con. VVho comes heere?

Club VVho comes here? a plague found ome, you bawle quoth a, ods hat, Ile forzweare your house, you lodgde a fellow and his wife by vs that ha runne away with our parrel, and left vs such gew-gawes here, come Kate, come to mee, thouse dizeard yfaith.

Maior Minehoste, know you this man?

Haste Yes mailter Major, Ilegiue my word for him, why neibor Club, how comes this geare about?

on my head, now the lads and the lastes won flowt me too too

Const. How came this manand woman thus attired?

Hoste Here came a man and woman hither this last night, which I did take for substantial people, and lodge all in one chamber by these folkess mee thinkes, have beeneso bolde to change apparell, and gone away this morning ere they rose.

Afair That was that villaine traitout Old-cassle, that thus escaped vs: make out huy and cry yet after him, keepe fast that traiterous rebell his seruant there: farewell mine hoste.

Carier Come Kate Owdham, thou and He trimly dizard.

Kate Ifaith neame Club, He wot nere what to do, He be for flowted





sir fobn Old-castle.

flowed and so stroived at: but byth messe Ise cry. Wexeum.

for lohn Come Dol, come, be mery wench,

Farewell Kent, we are not for thee,

Be lusty my laste, come for Lancothire,

We must nip the Boung for these crownes. And both shikely Doll Why is all the gold spent already that you had the o-

ther day?

- fir Iohn Gone Doll, gone, flowne, fpent, vanished, the divel,

drinke and the dice, has denoured all.

Doll You might have left me in Kent, that you might, vntil you had bin better provided, I could have staied at Cobstam.

fir John No Dol, no, ile none of that, Kent's too hot Doll, Kent's too hot: the weathercocke of Wrotham will crow no longer, we have pluckt him, lie has lost his feathers, I have prunde him bare, left him thrice, is moulted, is moulted, wech.

Doll Faith fir Iohn, I might have gone to feruice againe, old maifter Harpoole told me he would prouide me a miftrisfir Iohn Peace Doll, peace, come mad wench, Ile make thee an honest woman, weele into Lancashire to our friends, the trothis, Ile marry thee, we want but a little mony to buy vs a horse, and to spend by the way, the next sheep that comes shall loose his sleece, weele have these crownes wench I warrant thee: stay, who comes here? some Irish villaine me thinkes that enter the Irish man with his master slaine.

has flaine a man, and drawes him out of the way to rifle him:

Alas poe mester, S. Rishard Lee, besaint Patricke is rob and cut thy trote, for dee shaine, and dy money, and dee gold ring, be me truly is loue thee wel, but now dow be kil thee, bee shitten kanaue.

fir Iohn. Stand firra, what art thou?

Irisman. Be faint Patricke mester is pore Irisman, is a leaster. fir Iohn. Sirra, sirra, you are a danned rogue, you have killed a man here, and risled him of all that he has, sbloud you I 3 rogue

boue deliuer, or ile not leaue you so much as an Irish haite aboue your shoulders, you who son Irish dogge, firra vntrusse presently, come off and dispatch, or by this crosse ile fetch your head off as cleane as a barke.

Irishman. Wees me faint Patricke, If e kill me mester for chaine and his ring, and nows be rob of all, mees vindoo.

Prieftrobs him.

fir Iohn Auant you tascal, go sirra, be walking, come Doll the diuel laughes, when one theefe robs another, come madde wench, weele to saint Albons, and reuel in our bower, hey my brane girle.

Doll O thou art old sir Iohn when all's done yfaith.

Enter the hofte of the Bell, with the Irish man.

Irishman Bemetro mester is pore Irisman, is want ludging, is have no mony, is starue and cold, good mester give her some

meate, is famile and tie.

Host Ysaith my fellow I have no lodging, but what I keep for my guesse, that I may not disapoint, as for meate thou shale have such as there is, & if thou wilt lie in the barne, theres faire straw, and roome enough.

Irishman Is thanke my mester hartily, de strawis good bed

for me.

Hoft Ho Robin?

Hoff Shew this poore Irishman into the barne, go sirra.

Enter carrier and Kate.

Cub. Ho, who's within here, who lookes to the horfes? Gods hatte heres fine worke, the hens in the manger, and the hogs in the litter, a bots found you all, heres a house well looke too yvaith.

Kate Mas goffe Club, He very cawd.

Club. Get in Kate, get in to fier and warme thee.

Chib Ho John Hoftler.

Hofter What gaffer Club, welcome to faint Albons, How does all our friends in Lancashire?

Club.





sir Iohn Old-castle

Club Well God haue mercie Iohn, how does Tom, wheres

he?

Hoftler O Tom is gone from hence, hees at the three horse-loues at Stony-stratford, how does old Dick Dunne?

Club Gods hatte old Dunne has bin moyerd in a flough in Brickhil-lane, a plague found it, yonder is fuch abhomination weather as neuer was feene.

Hoster. Gods hat thiefe, have one half pecke of pease and oates more for that, as I am Iohn Ostler, hee has been ever as

good a iade as euer traueld.

Club Faith well faid old Iacke, thou are the old lad stil.

Hostler Come Gaffer Club, vnlode, vnlode, and get to supper, and Ile rub dunne the while.

Come. exeunt.

Enter fir Iohn Old-caftle, and his Lady disguisde.
Oldca. Come Madam happily escapt, here let vs sit,
This place is farre remote from any path,
And here awhile our weary limbs may rest,
To take refreshing, free from the pursuite

Ofenuious Winchester.

Lady But where (my Lord,)
Shall we find rest for our disquiet minds?
There dwell vntamed thoughts that hardly stoupe,
To such abasement of disdained rags,
We were not wont to trauell thus by night,
Especially on foote.

Oldca. No matter loue,
Extremities admit no better choice,
And were it not for thee fay froward time,
Imposse a greater taske, I would esteeme it
As lightly as the wind that blowes vpon vs,
But in thy sufferance I am doubly taskt,
Thou wast not wont to haue the earth thy stoole,
Northe moist dewy grassethy pillow, nor
Thy chamber to be the wide horrison,

Lady How can it seems a trouble, having you A partner with me, in the worst I feele?

No gentle Lord, your presence would give ease
To death it selfe, thould he now seaze vpon me,
Behold what my foresight hath undertane here bread and
For sease we faint, they are but homely cates, cheese & a bottle.
Yet saucde with hunger, they may seeme as sweete,
As greater dainties we were wont to taste.

As greater danties we were wont to talte.

Oldea. Praise be to him whose plentic sends both this,
And all things else our mortall bodies need,
Nor seome we this poore feeding, nor the state.

We now are in, for what is it on earth,
Nay vider heauen, continues at a stay?

Ebbes not the sea, when it hath ouersowne?

Flowers not darknes when the day is gone?

And see we not sometime the eie of heauen,
Pimmd with ouerstying clowdes: theres not that worke

Of carefull nature, or of cunning art,
(How strong, how beauteous, or how rich it be)

But falls in time to ruine; here gentle Madame,
In this one draught I wassirmy sorrow downe.

Lady And I incoragde with your dicerefullspeech,

Wil do the like.

Olden. Pray God poore Harpoole come,
If he should fall into the Bishops hands,
Or not remember where we bade him meete vs,
It were the thing of all things else, that now
Could breede reuolt in this new peace of mind.

Lady Feare not my Lord, hees witty to deuile,

And flrong to execute a prefent flift.

Oldea. That power be flil his guide hath guided vs,
My drowfie cies waxe heavy, earely rifing,
Together with the trauell we have had,
Make me that I could gladly take a nap,

Were I perswaded we might be secure.

Lady Let that depend on me, whill two do sleepe,

Ile watch that no insfortune happen vs.
Lay then your head vpon my lap sweete Lord,





sir Iohn Old-castle

And boldly take your rest. Oldea. I shal deare wife, Be too much trouble to thee. Lady Vrge not that, My duty binds me, and your love commands. I would I had the skil with tuned vovce, To draw on fleep with some sweet melodie, But imperfection and vnapmesse too, Are both repugnant, feare inferts the one, The other nature hath denied me vse. But what talke I of meanes to purchase that, Is freely hapned? fleepe with gentle hand, Hath shut his eie-liddes, oh victorious labour, How foone thy power can charme the bodies fense? And now thou likewise climbst vnto my braine. Making my heavy temples stoupe to thee, Great God of heaven from danger keepe vs free. both fleepes.

Enter fir Richard Lee, and his men

Lee. A murder closely done and in my ground?

Search carefully, if any where it were,

This obscure thicket is the likeliest place.

fernant. Sir I haue found the body stiffe with cold,

And mangled cruelly with many wounds.

Lee Looke if thou knowest him, turne his body vp,

Alacke it is my son, my sonne and heire,

Alacke it is my son, my sonne and heire,
Whom two yeares since, I sent to Ireland,
To practise there the discipline of warre,
And comming home (for so he wrote to me)
Some sauage hart, some bloudy diuellish hand,
Either in hate, or thirsting for his coyne,
Hath here slucde out his bloud, vnhappy houre,
Accursed place, but most inconstant sate,
That hadst reserved him from the bullets fire,
And suffered him to scape the wood-karnes sury,
Didst here ordaine the treasure of his life,
(Euen here within the armes of tender peace,

And

And where fecurity gate greatest hope)
To be consumed by treasons wastefull hand?
And what is most afflicting to my soule,
That this his death and murther should be wrought,
Without the knowledge by whose meanes twas done,
2 ferm. Not so sir, I have sound the authors of it,
Seewhere they sit, and in their bloudy fistes,

See where they lit, and in their bloudy filtes. The fatull instruments of death and sinue.

Lee Iust indgement of that power, whose gracious eie,
Loathing the sight of such a hainous fact,
Dazeled their senses with benuniming sleepe,
Till their vihallowed treachery were knownes.
Awake ye monsters, murderers awake,
Tremble for horror, blush you cannot chuse,
Beholding this inhumane deed of yours.

Old. What meane you fir to trouble weary foules,

And interrupt vs of our quiet sleepe?

Lee Oh diuellish!can you boast vnto your selues
Of quiet sleepe, having within your hearts
The guilt of murder waking, that with cries
Deafes the lowd thunder, and sollicites heaven,
With more than Mandrakes streekes for your offence?

Lady Old. What murder?you vpbraid vs wrongfully.

Lee Can you dony the factifice you not heere,
The body of my found by you mil-done?
Looke on his wounds, looke on his purple hew:
Do we not finde you where the deede was done?
Were not your kniues falt closed in your hands?
Is not this cloth an argument befide,
Thus stained and spotted with his innocent blood?
These speaking characters, were nothing else
To pleade against ye, would connet you both.
Bring them away, bereauers of my joy,
At Hartsord where the Sifes now are kept,
Their lives shall answere for my sonnes lost life.
Old castle As we are innocent, so may we speede.





sir fohn Old-castle.

Les As I am wrongd, so may the law proceede. Enter bishop of Rachester, constable of S. Albons, with fir John of 14 rotham, Doli hu wench, and the Irishman in Har-

pooles appareli.

Biffor What intricate confusion have we heere? Not two houres fince we apprehended one, In habite Irith, but in speech, not so: And now you bring another, that in speech I. altogether Irish, but in habite Seemes to be English: yea and more than so, The servant of that heretike Lord Cobham. Iryhman Fait me be no seruant of the lord Cobhams,

Me be Mack Chane of Vifter.

Bishop Otherwise calld Harpoole of Kent, go to fir,

You cannot blinde vs with your broken Irish.

fir Iohn Trust me, my Lord Bilhop, whether Irish, Or English, Harpoole or not Harpoole, that I leave to be decided by the triall: But fure I am this man by face and speech Is he that murdred yong fir Richard Lee: I met him presently upon the fact, And that he flew his maister for that gold,

Those iewells and that chaine I tooke from him. Bishop Well, our affaires doe call vs backe to London,

So that we cannot profecute the caufe As we defire to do, therefore we leave The charge with you, to fee they be conuaide To Hartford Sife: both this counterfaite And you fir Iohn of Wrotham, and your wench, For you are culpable as well as they, Though not for murder, yet for felony. But fince you are the meanes to bring to light This gracelesse murder, you shall beare with you, Our letters to the Judges of the bench, To be your friendesin what they lawfull may.

fir Iohn I thanke your Lordship.

Bist. So, away with them.

Enter Gacler and bis man, bringing forth Old castle. Gaster Bring forth the prisoners, see the court preparde, The Iustices are comming to the bench.

So, let him Itand, away, and fetch the rest.

ехениг.

Old. Oh give me patience to indure this scourge, Thou that art fountaine of that vertuous streame, And though contempt, false witnes, and reproch Hang on these yron gyues, to presse my life As low as earth, yet ftrengthen me with faith. That I may mount in spirite about the cloudes.

Enter Gaoler bringing in Lady Old-castle, and Harpoole. Here comes my lady, forow tis for her,

Thy wound is greeuous, elfe I scoffe at thee.

What and poore Harpoole! art thou ith bryars too? Harp. Ifaith my Lord, lamin, get out how I can. Lady Say (gentle Lord) for now we are alone,

And may conferre, shall we confesse in Briefe, Of whence, and what we are, and so preuent The acculation is commende against vs?

Old. What will that helpe vs? being knowne, sweete loue.

VVe shall for herefie be put to death, For so they tearme the religion we professe.

No.if it be ordained we must die.

And at this instant, this our comfort be, That of the guilt imposde, our foules are free.

Harp. Yea, vea my lord, Harpoole is so resolude, I wreake of death the leffe, in that I die Not by the fentence of that enuious priest The Bishop of Rochester, on were it he, Or by his meanes that I should suffer here, It would be double torment to my foule.

Lady V Vell, be it then according as heaven please. Enter lord Indge, two Instices, Major of Saint Albons, lord Powelle and his lady, and old fir Richard Lee: she Indee

and Instices tak- their places.

Indga





sir Iohn Old-castle.

Indee Now M. Maior, what gentleman is that, You bring with you, before vs, and the bench? Major The Lord Powes if it like your honor, And this his Lady, trauelling toward Wales, Who for they lodgde last night within my house, And my Lord Bithop did lay fearch for fuch, Were very willing to come on with me, Lest for their fakes, suspition we might wrong. Indge We crie your honor mercy good my Lord,

Wilt please ye take your place, madame your ladyship, May here or where you will repose your felfe,

Vntill this bufinesse now in hand be past.

Lady Po. I will withdraw into fome other roome, So that your Lordship, and the rest be pleased. Indge With all our hearts: attend the Lady there.

Lord Po. Wife, I have eyde yond prisoners all this while

And my conceit doth tel me, tis our friend, The noble Cobham, and his vertuous Lady.

Lady Po. I thinke no leffe, are they fuspected trow ye

For doing of this murder? Lord Po. What it meanes,

I cannot tell, but we shall know anon, Meane space as you passe by them, ask the question, But do it fecr etly, you be not feene, And make fome figne that I may know your mind.

Lady Po. My Lord Cobham, madam? as she passeth ouer the Old. No Cobha now, nor madam as you loue vs, stage by the.

But Iohn of Lancashire, and Ione his wife.

Lady Po. Oh tel, what is it that our loue can do,

To pleasure you, for we are bound to you.

Oldca. Nothing but this, that you conceale our names,

So gentle lady passe for being spied.

Lady Po. My heart I leave, to beare part of your griefe. exit. Indge Call the prisoners to the barre: fir Richard Lee,

What euidence can you bring against these people, To proue them guiltie of the murder done?

K 3

Less.

Lee. This bloudy towell, and these naked kniues, Beside we found them sitting by the place, Where the dead body lay within a buth.

Indge VV hat answer you why law should not proceed,

According to this euidence given in, To taxe we with the penalty of death?

Old. That we are free from murders very thought,

And know not how the gentleman was flaine.

I lust. How came this linner cloth so boudy t

I lust. How came this linnen cloth so boudy then?

Lady Cob. My husband hot with trauelling my lord,
His nose gusht out a bleeding, that was it. (sheathde?

2 Inst. But wherefore were your sharpeedgde kniues va-Lady Cob. To cut such simple victuall as we had.

Indge Say we admit this answer to those arucles,

VV hat made ye in so private a darke nooke, So far remote from any common path,

As was the thicke where the dead corpes was throwne?

Old. Journving my lord from London from the terme.

Downe into Lancashire where we do dwell,
And what with age and trauell being faint,
VVe gladly fought a place where we might rest,
Free from resort of other passengers,

And so we strayed into that secret corner.

Indge Thele are but ambages to drive of time, And linger Iustice from her purposse end.

But who are these?

Enser the Constable, bringing in the Irishman, sir Iohn of
Wrotham, and Dell.

Couft. Stay Iudgement, and release those innocents, For here is hee, whose hand hath done the deed, For which they stand indited at the barre, This sauage villaine, this rude Irish slaue, His tongue already hath confest the fact, And here is witnes to confirme as much.

fir lohn Yes my good Lords, no fooner had he flaine His louing mafter for the wealth he had,

But





sir fohn Old-castle.

But I vpon the instant met with him,
And what he purchacde with the losse of bloud:
With strokes I presently bereau'de him of,
Some of the which is spent, the rest remaining,
I willingly surrender to the hands
Of old fir Richard Lee, as being his,
Beside my Lord Indge, I greet your honor,
With letters from my Lord of Winchester.

delivers a letter.

Lee Is this the wolfe whose thirstly throate did drinke
My deare somes bloud? art thou the snake
He cherisht, yet with envious piercing sting,
Assalds thum mortally? soule stigmatike,
Thou venome of the country where thou liveds,
And pessilence of this were it not that law
Stands ready to revenge thy cruckie,
Traitor to God, thy master, and to me,

These hands should be thy executioner.

Indge Patience six Richard Lee, you shall have suffice,
And he the guerdon of his base desert,
The fact is odious, therefore take him hence,
And being hangde youl the wretch be dead,
His body after shall be hangd in chaines,

Neare to the place, where he did act the murder.

11.2. Prethee Lord shudge let me haue mine own clothes, my strouces there, and let me be hangd in a with after my cuntry, the Irish fashion.

exit.

Iudge Go to, away with him, and now fir John, Although by you, this murther came to light, And therein you have well deferu'd, yet vpright law, So will not have you be excussed and quit, For you did rob the Irishman, by which You stand attained here of felony, Beside, you have bin lewd, and many yeares Led alascinious ynbeseeming life.

fir Iohn Oh but my Lord, he repents, fir Iohn repents, and he will mend.

Indge.

Indge In hope thereof, together with the fauour, My Lord of Winchester intreates for you, We are content you shall be proued.

fir Iohn I thanke your good Lordship,

Iudge These other falfly here, accused, and brought

In perill wrongfully, we in like fort Do fet at liberty, paying their fees.

Lord Po. That office if it please ye I will do, For countries sake, occause I know them well, They are my neighbours, therefore of my cost,

Their charges shall be paide. Lee. And for amends,

Touching the wrong vinwittingly I have done,
There are a few crownes ino. e for them to drinke. gives them

Indge. Your kindnes merites praise fir Kichard Lee, a purse.

So let vs hence. exeunt all but Lord Tomesse and Oldcassile.

Lord Po. But Powesses still must stay,
There yet remaines a part of that true loue,
He owes his noble friend violatisside,
And vinperformd which first of all doth bind ine,
To gratulate your lordships safe deliuery,
And then intreat, that since vinlookt for thus,
We here are met, your honor would vouchsafe,
To ride with me to Wales, where though my power,
(Though not to quittance those great benefites,
I haue receiud of you) yet both my house,
My purse my servants, and what else I haue,

Are all at your command, deny menot,
I know the Bishops hate pursues ye so,
As theres no safety in abiding here.
Old. Tis true my Lord, and God forgine him for it.
Lord Po. Then let vs hence, you shall be straight provided

Of lufly geldings, and once entred VVales, VVellmay the Bifhop hunt, but fpight his face, 9 NO 58 He neuer more shall have the game in chace. exeunt.

FINIS.





















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